

Chapter 2661 – Upgraded Black Dragon

“Amazing! So, this is Saint’s Hand’s true foundation?”

“Even after reaching this point, Black Flame still dares to fight. He sure is courageous. It’s a pity that the current God’s Domain is no longer how it was before. Otherwise, with his combat power, it might really be possible to turn things around.”

“How foolish! Is he just being stubborn, or does he really think things are still the same?”

...

When the various superpowers’ members saw Shi Feng unsheathe the Abyssal Blade, their reactions varied from laughing in ridicule, sighing in disappointment, and lamenting.

The strength Shi Feng had previously displayed in battle was indeed incredible. It wouldn’t be an exaggeration at all to call him a monster.

Unfortunately, before a true monster, Shi Feng’s strength amounted to nothing. He could only buy time at best. Had he withdrawn when he had the chance, instead of provoking Thousand Eyes’s group, he wouldn’t have fallen into such a predicament.

As the various superpowers’ members were conversing, the Abyssal Blade in Shi Feng’s hand suddenly transformed into a cloud of dark fog that enveloped him completely, then expanded rapidly.

When the cloud of fog had grown to a 60-yard radius, a Dragon's roar echoed throughout the battlefield, making everyone's soul shudder.

Before anyone could react to this roar, a gigantic, pitch-black claw emerged from the fog and landed right beside Irontooth. The ground under the claw sank as if it was water. In addition, weblike cracks appeared in the space around the claw, the phenomenon making it seem as if the surrounding space could shatter at any time, unable to withstand the power the claw carried.

Shortly after the gigantic claw appeared, another Dragon's roar dispersed the black fog. When the fog cleared, the figure of a 40-meter-tall Black Dragon came into view. Despite the Black Dragon just standing there quietly, everyone felt an indescribable sense of awe and fear welling up within them as they stared at the Black Dragon.

"A Dragon?!"

"What's going on?!"

Everyone was dumbfounded when they saw the Black Dragon.

Dragons were creatures that all players in God's Domain knew about because the existence of Dragons was synonymous with "destruction" in God's Domain. One could easily find information depicting Dragons destroying kingdoms and empires overnight in any of God's Domain's libraries.

Now that a real Dragon appeared before them, everyone was naturally astonished.

When Thousand Eyes and the other Saint's Hand members saw the Black Dragon, their complexions paled drastically. Although they didn't know whether the Black Dragon before them was real or not, the pressure coming from it was no laughing matter. The Black Dragon's Life Rating was undoubtedly leaps and bounds above theirs.

Archaic Species?

Ferocious Beasts?

Compared to this Black Dragon, the Life Ratings of those creatures were insignificant.

"You asked me how I felt before, right? How do you feel about the situation now?" Shi Feng asked calmly as he gazed down at the dumbfounded Irontooth standing beside his claw.

After his Concentration reached the Tier 4 standard, not only did he gain better control over his Skills and Spells, but his Dragon Phantom was also more realistic than before. Now, the Life Rating of the phantom he transformed into much more closely matched that of the real Black Dragon King. At this point, despite being a Tier 3 Black Dragon King, his Basic Attributes nearly rivaled those of Mythic ranked Archaic Species of the same level.

At Shi Feng's words, Irontooth's expression turned indescribably grim. An unprecedented fear flooded his heart.

How is this possible?! Didn't they say that his Dragon Transformation should push him only to the standard of ordinary Mythic monsters?! How is he so strong?! Irontooth was confounded by the gigantic creature before him.

Saint's Hand had long since heard about Shi Feng's ability to transform into a Dragon. However, whether it was in terms of size, Basic Attributes, or Life Rating, the Dragon that Shi Feng had just transformed into was on a completely different level from what was stated in Saint's Hand's intelligence report.

At this moment, let alone Irontooth and the other Saint's Hand members, even Illusory Words was stunned by this situation.

Crimson Emperor had collected a lot of information on the fight between Zero Wing and Demon City. Naturally, that information included Shi Feng's Black Dragon form. However, compared to the Black Dragon that had attacked Demon City, the Black Dragon that now stood on the battlefield was like a completely different creature.

Even though she was only looking at the Black Dragon through the Magic Mirror, she could still feel the aura of death and destruction it exuded. Moreover, she could also faintly sense that the space of the entire battlefield gravitated toward the Black Dragon. She simply couldn't believe that the Black Dragon was only a Tier 3 Dragon.

While everyone was in shock over the Black Dragon's aura and Life Rating, the Black Dragon suddenly raised a claw.

Peng!

Immediately afterward, the place where Irontooth stood and the space around it transformed into a pitch-black void; the dozen or so Saint's Hand members who had been standing in this space were nowhere in sight. As for Irontooth, his six-meter-tall figure currently lay inside a newly formed crater over 30 yards from his previous position. Cracks were also spreading across the silver armor protecting Irontooth's two arms, and his HP had decreased by more than two million.

Silence...

At this moment, it was as if time had stopped.

...

“What just happened?” the fierce man from Crimson Emperor muttered, slack-jawed.

As a Domain Realm expert with Basic Attributes and a physique rivaling those of Grand Lords of the same level, almost nothing in God’s Domain could escape his sight.

However, he actually hadn’t seen what had happened just now. Aside from a momentary black flash in the Magic Mirror’s display and a loud boom, his senses had failed to pick up any other information.

...

So, this is his true strength? Purple Eye, who stood a short distance away from Shi Feng, was filled with an indescribable sense of shock when she saw the black void that had appeared near her.

Compared to the various superpowers’ members that were spectating the fight through Magic Mirrors, she was able to get a much clearer sense of just how much power Shi Feng’s attack contained.

Monster-level experts?

Tier 4 monsters?

These things were nothing in front of such overbearing power.

Meanwhile, upon seeing this scene, the complexions of Thousand Eyes and the others turned deathly pale.

Was Shi Feng still human?

Despite Irontooth currently being stronger than the Faux Saint Devourer, Shi Feng actually suppressed Berserker to an even greater degree than when he suppressed the Faux Saint Devourer.

As for Irontooth, who had just stood himself back up inside the distant crater, horror colored his face as he gazed up at the Black Dragon Shi Feng had transformed into.

So close!

He was so very close!

If not for him having reacted sufficiently quickly and defended himself in time against the Black Dragon's swipe using his weapon, the consequences would've been unimaginable.

"It seems your reactions are pretty fast to be able to block that attack of mine," Shi Feng said calmly as he looked down at Irontooth. "However, how many attacks can you afford to block?"

Although Shi Feng had casually executed the earlier attack, it still carried the power of an Advanced Combat Technique. Had Irontooth failed to raise his weapon in time, he definitely would have suffered tremendously.

Just as Shi Feng was about to continue attacking, however, Thousand Eyes suddenly stepped forward.

“Guild Leader Black Flame, I admit that you are very powerful. However, you’d best not force our hand. Saint’s Hand’s goal is to maintain stability in God’s Domain,” Thousand Eyes said coldly. “If you really kill Irontooth now and break the balance, both the Faux Saint monsters and Saint’s Hand definitely won’t let Zero Wing off the hook. At that time, Silverwing Town and Zero Wing City will both face the wrath of an army of tens of millions!”

It was incredibly difficult for Mythic ranked Faux Saint monsters to spawn. Hence, every one held great importance for both the Faux Saint monsters and Saint’s Hand. Now that Irontooth had temporarily merged with the Faux Saint Devourer, killing Irontooth would also kill the Faux Saint Devourer. This definitely wasn’t something the Faux Saint monsters and Saint’s Hand would tolerate.

...

Upon seeing Thousand Eyes threatening Shi Feng, the spectating superpowers were surprised. This was the first time since Saint’s Hand’s establishment that such a situation occurred. Normally, the Guild would just destroy all those that stood in its path. It had never bothered negotiating or making threats at all.

“It seems Thousand Eyes has been cornered this time. I wonder what Black Flame will do?”

“What else can he do, aside from letting them go? Let alone Zero Wing, even if the superpowers of the several neighboring kingdoms and empires worked together, they still wouldn’t be able to prevent Saint’s Hand and tens of millions of Faux Saint monsters from retaliating.”

...

However, while the various superpowers’ spectating members were discussing this matter, Shi Feng glanced at Thousand Eyes and said in an ineffably calm voice, “So what?”

After saying that, Shi Feng used Dragon Breath on Irontooth and heavily injured him; the Berserker’s HP fell by a sizable chunk. In his current state, Irontooth was utterly incapable of combat.

Following which, Shi Feng battered Irontooth with claw attacks, one after another, plundering large chunks of HP from the Berserker without pause.

“You!!”

Thousand Eyes’s complexion went through several shades of red when he saw Shi Feng’s wanton assault.

“Is he crazy?”

“Is he really not afraid of the Faux Saint monsters’ and Saint’s Hand’s retaliation?”

“Zero Wing is doomed! Zero Wing is truly doomed this time!”

When the various superpowers' spectating members saw Irontooth's HP plummeting, they gaped in disbelief. They never thought that Shi Feng would actually ignore the big picture and choose to kill Irontooth.

In less than six minutes since Shi Feng started his onslaught, Irontooth's HP, which was in the hundreds of millions, zeroed out, his body collapsing lifelessly to the ground. As for Thousand Eyes and the other Saint's Hand members, they merely watched the drubbing with dumbfounded expressions, none of them daring to do anything.

Chapter 2662 – Continent Shaken, Powerful Return!

As Irontooth's six-meter-tall body started disintegrating into particles of light, everyone standing in the desert woodland could not help but gasp.

Despite having absorbed the Faux Saint Devourer's strength, Irontooth had died, just like that.

Thus far, not a single power or player had managed to kill a Grand Lord ranked Faux Saint Destroyer, yet Shi Feng had actually succeeded in killing a Faux Saint Devourer. Moreover, he had accomplished this feat while Saint's Hand was protecting the Mythic ranked monster.

Meanwhile, as Irontooth's body disappeared, soul ripples spread from his fading corpse up to thousands of yards away. Everyone that came into contact with these soul ripples shuddered involuntarily.

A short moment later, several streams of white mist escaped Irontooth's corpse and flew straight into Shi Feng's body. Before he could react, the mist had merged with his soul already.

"Black Flame, you'll regret your actions today! Now that you've killed the Faux Saint Devourer, it has left a Soul Mark on you! It won't be long before the other Faux Saint monsters come to find you! They will also obliterate Silverwing Town from the Orc Empire!" Thousand Eyes scoffed as he looked at Shi Feng.

The higher-ups' instruction was for them to protect the Faux Saint Devourer because the birth of a Faux Saint Devourer was incredibly rare and difficult—not even one Faux Saint Devourer might appear from tens of thousands of Faux Saint Destroyers. Meanwhile, a Faux Saint Devourer was unimaginably useful to both the Faux Saint monsters and Saint's Hand.

However, Shi Feng had not only disregarded Saint's Hand but even killed the Faux Saint Devourer right before everyone's eyes. He had actually snubbed Saint's Hand. This was the first time Thousand Eyes had suffered such humiliation since entering God's Domain.

Due to the mission's failure, Thousand Eyes wanted to make Shi Feng realize just how foolish his actions were and regret them for the rest of his life.

The other Saint's Hand members present also started eyeing Shi Feng with derision.

Unlike ordinary monsters, the Faux Saint monsters possessed close bonds with each other. Moreover, the tightness of this bond corresponded with the strength of a Faux Saint monster.

With the Faux Saint Devourer analogous to a king among Faux Saint monsters, killing one was equivalent to becoming enemies with every Faux Saint monster out there. Updater by ReadNovelFull.com

Unless Shi Feng could remove the Faux Saint Devourer's Soul Mark, all the Faux Saint monsters within a 100,000-yard radius would be able to detect his presence and would try to kill him as long as his soul existed. In other words, they would target him until he deleted his account and started all over again!

The complexions of Purple Eye and the others darkened slightly as they looked at Thousand Eyes. They never thought that killing the Faux Saint Devourer would come at such a price.

...

"Hahaha! Black Flame must be dumbfounded right now! If what Thousand Eyes said really is true, then Black Flame and Silverwing Town are both doomed!"

The various superpowers' spectating members laughed along with Thousand Eyes.

The power of Shi Feng's Dragon Transformation was shocking and could even be called unmatched. They could tell that Zero Wing would most likely be making a strong comeback.

However, Thousand Eyes's words dispelled all their worries.

The current Silverwing Town's defensive capability was indeed very strong. After all, it had not only a Tier 4 NPC guarding it but also the protection of a monstrous player like Shi Feng.

However, when besieged by an army of millions or possibly even tens of millions of Faux Saint monsters, even a Main City ranked NPC city would fall very quickly, let alone Silverwing Town.

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Just as everyone thought that Shi Feng would reveal signs of regret or fear, however, the Swordsman turned to look at Thousand Eyes in an indescribably calm gaze.

“You want to see me regretting? You’ll have to be able to leave this place alive first to do that!”

After saying so, Shi Feng stalked toward Thousand Eyes’s team, each step he took setting the ground atremble. At this moment, it felt as if the whole world was angry.

Upon seeing his approach, Thousand Eyes and the other Saint’s Hand members paled drastically.

“Black Flame... You’d better not go too far!”

“We are members of Saint’s Hand’s trump card legion! If you kill us, Saint’s Hand will not forgive Zero Wing!”

“That’s right! If you wish to stay alive and keep Silverwing Town standing, your only choice is to work with Saint’s Hand! Otherwise, both you and Zero Wing will be devoured by those Faux Saint monsters!”

Faced with the 40-meter-tall Black Dragon and the overbearing aura it exuded, Saint’s Hand’s peak experts and even Thousand Eyes, a Domain Realm expert, were overwhelmed with unspeakable terror. Their minds blanked out, preventing them from properly controlling their bodies; they couldn’t escape even though they wanted to.

This scene flabbergasted the various spectating superpowers. For a moment, they doubted that the people displayed on their Magic Mirrors were actually the members of one of Saint's Hand's trump card legions, who normally showed no respect even to the various superpowers.

Before the various superpowers' spectating members could dismiss their doubts, Shi Feng had already arrived before Thousand Eyes and slowly raised one of his massive claws.

"You don't need to concern yourselves with this!"

After Shi Feng said so, he sent a claw smashing into Thousand Eyes's team.

First Sword, Lightshadow!

In the next moment, the phantom of a gigantic Dragon's claw descended from the sky, so immense and powerful that Thousand Eyes and the others couldn't dodge or defend themselves. In the blink of an eye, Thousand Eyes and the others were sent to the void, together with the ground beneath them.

Silence!

Destruction!

Death!

For a moment, time in the desert woodland seemed to freeze. Even the various superpowers' members that were spectating from Silverwing Town stared at the Magic Mirrors before them with dumbfounded expressions, unable to believe their eyes.

"They got killed, just like that?"

"Those are experts that Saint's Hand had invested a fortune in nurturing! With this, Saint's Hand definitely won't let Zero Wing off the hook!"

"Is he really Black Flame?"

Unlike normal players, the experts of Saint's Hand's trump card legions had relied on special methods to gain astonishing Basic Attributes. Hence, the death penalties they suffered were also far greater than that of normal players.

By killing Thousand Eyes's team, Shi Feng had basically crippled half of the trump card legion they belonged to. It would be strange if Saint's Hand did not try to take revenge on Zero Wing.

Despite Zero Wing's fate already hanging on the line, now that it had to go up against the Faux Saint army, Shi Feng had actually annihilated Thousand Eyes's team, instead of trying to mend his relationship with Saint's Hand to improve Zero Wing's chances of survival. What Shi Feng just did basically pushed Zero Wing further down the path of no return.

However, even after annihilating Thousand Eyes's team, Shi Feng remained calm like usual as if he had just killed a bunch of mobs. After giving Purple Eye some instructions, as well as gifting the weapons and equipment of Saint's Hand's members to the patrol army's members, he flew off to the distant Silverwing Town.

Shortly after Shi Feng left the battlefield, news regarding the events in the desert woodland started spreading like wildfire.

Black Flame's shocking return to Silverwing Town!

Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourer gets killed!

Black Flame single-handedly annihilates one of Saint's Hand's trump card legions!

These shocking pieces of information shook the entire eastern continent one after another.

Chapter 2663 – He's Back

Cold Spring Forest, Stone Forest City, Freedom Hotel:

Inside a splendid meeting room, several dozen Tier 3 experts exuding powerful auras were currently seated around a round table. However, despite the number of people present, the room was remarkably quiet.

Careful observation of the people present would discover that quite a few of them radiated intense bloodlust and were enveloped by extremely dense darkness energy. Ordinary Dark Players were no

match for these people in these two aspects. These people were none other than Dark Rhapsody's upper echelon and the commanders of a few of the Dark World's top adventurer teams.

Aside from these experts from the Dark World, the other Tier 3 experts seated around the table also had extraordinary origins. Among them were the upper echelon of the super-first-rate Guild Unyielding Soul and the Guild Leaders of first-rate Guilds, as well as the commanders and vice commanders of top adventurer teams.

Meanwhile, every one of these VIPs was looking at a woman wearing an Advanced Master Forger's Insignia. Despite this woman lacking a powerful aura, everyone was treating her as the chairperson of this meeting. Updater by ReadNovelFull.com

Currently, however, this woman appeared indescribably haggard.

"I hope that everyone present can increase the support you provide to counter Starlink and the various superpowers' harassment. Zero Wing will make sure that everyone receives proper compensation. Aside from this topic, does anybody have anything else they wish to raise?" Melancholic Smile asked as she swept her gaze across the people present.

Ever since Shi Feng and Zero Wing's main force members left for the western continent, Starlink and the various superpowers had constantly been harassing Stone Forest City. Economic suppression, material plundering, and field ambushes occurred at almost every instant. To make matters worse, as the number of Tier 3 players the various superpowers possessed increased, the area the Knight Legion could protect also shrank.

Moreover, aside from Shi Feng, both Vice Guild Leaders of Zero Wing were also inaccessible. As a result, Melancholic Smile had to shoulder the burden of leading Zero Wing temporarily.

However, with the unstable factors surrounding Stone Forest City increasing continuously, the number of players that dared operate in Stone Forest City decreased. This took a toll on the city's economy. At

this point, the city's daily income wasn't even half of what the city made during its peak. Meanwhile, in order to ensure the safety of Stone Forest City, Zero Wing City, and Silverwing Town, Zero Wing had no choice but to increase the security measures implemented, which, in turn, increased the Guild's daily expenditure substantially.

"We are facing some problems in the Dark World as well. Recently, because of the increase in the number of Tier 3 players, many of the Dark World's powers have partnered up and launched several attacks on the Teleportation Gate already. Currently, we are still able to stop these attacks, but I'm afraid this situation won't last for very long," Dark Rhapsody's Blue Rainbow said helplessly to Melancholic Smile. "In addition, World Domination is growing restless. Judging from the information we collected, we believe World Domination will mount a large-scale operation soon. Hence, we hope that Zero Wing can give us more of the Freedom Hotel's resources, so that we can rope in more of the Dark World's powers and maintain a stable hold over the Teleportation Gate."

Upon hearing Blue Rainbow's words, Liang Jing, sitting beside Melancholic Smile, frowned slightly.

A large part of the reason why Stone Forest City could maintain its current income was the Freedom Hotel. In order to ensure Stone Forest City's safety, they had obtained the help of the various powers and adventurer teams in exchange for the Freedom Hotel's rooms.

Thus far, they had already given out quite a few rooms. If they gave out even more, not only would Zero Wing have fewer rooms for its own use, but the Freedom Hotel's income would also decrease significantly—possibly to the point where Zero Wing's current expenditures became unsustainable.

However, the Dark World's Teleportation Gate was also provided a considerable portion of Zero Wing's income. This was especially true for Magic Crystals. It was similarly something that Zero Wing could not afford to lose.

"I understand. I'll consider this matter and give you an answer as soon as possible," Melancholic Smile said as she massaged her temples. "If there are no other problems, we'll adjourn for today."

After Melancholic Smile said so, everyone present promptly left their seats. At this time, Unyielding Soul's Mu Lingsha approached Melancholic Smile.

"Miss Melancholic, please feel free to ask if you come across any difficulty in funding. Unyielding Soul and Zero Wing are old allies. While we might not be able to provide additional manpower, we can still allocate some funds to help Zero Wing," Mu Lingsha said quietly as she looked at Melancholic Smile, who currently wore a worried expression on her face.

"Thank you," Melancholic Smile said. "In reality, we don't really have any problems with regard to funding. The crucial problem is the various superpowers that are targeting Stone Forest City, as well as the management of Star-Moon Kingdom and the Black Dragon Empire. If the main force members were around, those superpowers would hold back somewhat instead of working with Starlink to target Zero Wing's members. Now, it is becoming increasingly difficult for Zero Wing's members to develop in Star-Moon Kingdom and the Black Dragon Empire."

Currently, funding was still a small problem for Zero Wing. The really urgent matter now was the Guild's lack of Tier 3 experts. If not for Unyielding Soul sending quite a number of its Tier 3 experts to help maintain Stone Forest City's security during this period, Stone Forest City would've definitely ended up in an even more miserable state.

"Right, Vice Guild Leader Mu, is there still no news about the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's Phoenix Pavilion Master?" Melancholic Smile asked.

Zero Wing had partnered with the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's Phoenix Rain on many occasions before. The two sides could be considered to be in an absolute alliance. Melancholic Smile and Phoenix Rain were also fairly close friends, as the two of them had come into frequent contact with each other because of the business relationship between their two Guilds.

Originally, after the various superpowers started targeting Stone Forest City, Melancholic Smile had sought Phoenix Rain's help to solve some of the problems Zero Wing encountered in the Black Dragon Empire. However, no matter how she tried contacting Phoenix Rain, she couldn't get through at all. It was as if Phoenix Rain had disappeared from God's Domain. In fact, even the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's members did not know Phoenix Rain's whereabouts.

"We have already sent a lot of people to investigate this matter. It is truly strange. Let alone Phoenix Rain and her trusted subordinates, even the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's Ku Rong, Nine Dragons Emperor, and many others of the Guild's upper echelon have disappeared. Currently, the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion is relying entirely on its Grand Elders to operate. According to the information we got, even those Grand Elders don't know what is going on," Mu Lingsha said.

"Disappeared?" Melancholic Smile was stunned when she heard Mu Lingsha's words.

The core upper echelon of a super-first-rate Guild had actually disappeared overnight without any news. Who would possibly dare believe this?

"However, I also heard that Mythology invited the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion to the Faux Saint alliance discussion that it is holding in the Fire Dragon Empire. Once this alliance discussion ends, we might receive some news regarding the Phoenix Pavilion Master," Mu Lingsha said.

"Alliance discussion?" Melancholic Smile's complexion turned even more haggard when she heard this phrase. "It seems we are really in trouble this time."

Ostensibly, Mythology's alliance discussion would focus on the problem of the Faux Saint monsters. In reality, Mythology was simply trying to rope in the various superpowers to capture Stone Forest City.

If the various superpowers come to an agreement on how to split Stone Forest City's profits during this upcoming discussion, then the next step would be for them to attack Stone Forest City.

With Stone Forest City's current defenses, it could fend off the various superpowers' joint assault, but such a war would destroy Stone Forest City's economy.

Melancholic Smile wasn't the only person suffering a headache over this matter. Mu Lingsha was not having a good time, either. After all, Mythology's alliance discussion this time wouldn't target just Zero Wing but also Unyielding Soul. Unyielding Soul was falling into an increasingly precarious situation, yet she couldn't do anything about it.

This was because 15 superpowers were attending the alliance discussion this time, three of which were Super Guilds—making it undoubtedly the grandest meeting ever held on the eastern continent. If all of these superpowers worked together, the strength they could unleash would be unimaginable.

Just as Melancholic Smile and Mu Lingsha were feeling helpless, Liang Jing, who was at one side, reading a message, suddenly revealed a rare smile.

"No! It's not us who are in trouble, but them!" Liang Jing exclaimed excitedly.

"What happened?"

Both Melancholic Smile and Mu Lingsha were confused by Liang Jing's sudden about-face. They could not understand why she was smiling at all.

"He's back!"

“He?”

“The Guild Leader! The Guild Leader is back!”

Chapter 2664 – Zero Wing in an Uproar, Everyone’s Plans

Both Melancholic Smile and Mu Lingsha were stunned upon hearing Liang Jing’s words.

“You managed to contact the Guild Leader?” Melancholic Smile asked excitedly.

The current Zero Wing was in an extremely tight spot, as all of the Guild’s top combatants were absent. However, this still wasn’t the most important point. The crucial thing was that morale in the Guild had fallen to an unprecedented low.

Shi Feng had always been Zero Wing’s backbone. His return might not be able to drag Zero Wing out of its current predicament, but it would be able to unite the hearts of Zero Wing’s members.

Moreover, his return would also strengthen the confidence of Zero Wing’s various partners. After all, the main reason why these powers had partnered with Zero Wing in the first place was Shi Feng.

At this moment, let alone Melancholic Smile, even Mu Lingsha gazed at Liang Jing eagerly, wanting to know if Shi Feng had truly returned or not.

If Shi Feng had truly returned to the eastern continent, the various superpowers would naturally have to reconsider their decision to join hands with Starlink and target Zero Wing. Even if their alliance remained standing, they wouldn't be as united as before.

"Not yet," Liang Jing said, shaking her head. "I only received a report that the Guild Leader is currently in Silverwing Town."

After saying so, Liang Jing forwarded the report to Melancholic Smile for her inspection.

However, when Melancholic Smile and Mu Lingsha finished reading the report Liang Jing shared with them, the excitement on their faces disappeared, replaced by indescribable grimness.

"How could this be?" Melancholic Smile could not help growing anxious after reading the report. "Quick! Gather the elite Personal Guards and contact Hell Rush's team! We need to head to Silverwing Town as soon as possible!"

The fact that Shi Feng killed a Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourer was indeed astonishing. Such exciting news would definitely heighten morale.

However, the retaliation of millions of Faux Saint monsters was no laughing matter. Not to mention, Saint's Hand wouldn't sit still and do nothing after suffering humiliation.

At that time, Silverwing Town would have to go up against several million Faux Saint monsters, as well as Saint's Hand's experts. With Silverwing Town's defenses, stopping such a force would be utterly impossible.

Meanwhile, if Shi Feng were to end up getting devoured by those Faux Saint monsters, the consequences for Zero Wing would be unimaginable.

“Let’s not panic first. Those Faux Saint monsters and Saint’s Hand won’t take action so soon. They will need some time to amass their forces. I’ll contact Unyielding Heart and have him lead a team over to Silverwing Town immediately,” Mu Lingsha said, pacifying Melancholic Smile.

“Thank you,” Melancholic Smile said as she nodded in gratitude. She then took a deep breath to calm herself before methodically arranging for the necessary manpower to send to Silverwing Town.

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Meanwhile, as Melancholic Smile and the others were leading an army to Silverwing Town, the various superpowers were reeling from the news of Shi Feng’s return.

They never thought that Shi Feng would reappear after disappearing for such a long time.

Or to put it in another way, the Sword King of old had returned!

Moreover, Shi Feng’s individual combat power had even reached unbelievable heights. His Dragon Transformation actually allowed him to effortlessly kill a Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourer. The Sword King was far more frightening than before. This astonishing transformation would also make Zero Wing even more difficult to deal with.

After all, compared to a Guild with weak morale and divided opinions, a united Guild with strong morale would be capable of exhibiting much greater combat power.

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Fire Dragon Empire, Flame Dragon City, Scorching Flame Restaurant:

The Scorching Flame Restaurant towered over 30 stories above the city center. At this moment, a female Level 116 Guardian Knight clad in black-gold armor entered the top-floor room of the restaurant. The Guardian Knight radiated a frightening aura that suppressed even the ambient Mana around her. However, when this Guardian Knight arrived before the woman currently dining inside the room, she gave a very respectful bow.

“Vice Guild Leader Shadow, Black Flame has returned to the eastern continent,” White Feather reported as she placed a document before Cold Shadow. She then continued, “Like we guessed, he has become much stronger than before. As a result, Zero Wing and its partners have regained their confidence. Even the Secret Pavilion has dispatched more manpower to help defend Stone Forest City. Currently, the various superpowers are hotly discussing this matter. Should we still proceed with our original plan and hold the alliance discussion?”

“Of course. He merely killed one Faux Saint Devourer. The big picture remains the same. Proceed according to plan,” Cold Shadow said, a seductive smile appearing on her face. “Those superpowers are no fools, either. They should understand that times have changed. If they wish to survive in the new era, their only option is to plunder more resources for themselves! Not to mention, both Black Flame and Silverwing Town won’t survive much longer!”

Although Shi Feng’s return had indeed shocked the various superpowers, that was it.

After all, one would have trouble adapting to the changes in the rapidly developing eastern continent, even if one left the continent for just two or three days. Shi Feng had disappeared from the eastern

continent for around two weeks. Moreover, there was also the activation of the Demon God's Chaos expansion pack, as well as the outbreak of the Faux Saint monsters.

The current eastern continent was not the eastern continent of two weeks ago. One could say that Shi Feng's time had already passed. The threat he posed to the various superpowers was no longer as great as before.

In the current God's Domain, Tier 3 experts were no longer as rare as before. Even the various top adventurer teams boasted over 100 Tier 3 experts under their command, let alone the various first-rate Guilds and superpowers. Hence, it was now incredibly difficult for powerful individuals like Shi Feng to accomplish great feats on their own. Tier 3 Personal Guards were also no longer as great of a threat to players as they were before.

"Understood. I'll notify the various superpowers, then." White Feather nodded before leaving the Scorching Flame Restaurant.

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While the eastern continent's various superpowers were discussing Shi Feng's return, Shi Feng himself had gone to Zero Wing's Residence in Silverwing Town to rest.

"Guild Leader, as per your instructions, we have started secretly transferring the crippled NPCs and elite Tier 3 Personal Guards. It shouldn't be long before they arrive in town. We have also tasked people to monitor the gaming cabins of the Vice Guild Leaders and the others. As soon as they leave that special space, we will know about it," Youlan reported to Shi Feng, who was currently browsing the latest news regarding the eastern continent.

“Alright. They should be able to get out of that place in a few more days. If they arrive inside the Faux Saint monsters’ territory, send a rescue team immediately,” Shi Feng said, nodding.

Although he doubted that Zero Wing’s main force members would have any problems dealing with the Faux Saint monsters, if they got surrounded by a large number of Faux Saint Destroyers or encountered a Faux Saint Devourer, they might still get killed. Meanwhile, the enhanced death penalty from dying to a Faux Saint monster was something he didn’t want Zero Wing’s main force members to suffer.

“Guild Leader, are you really fine in your present condition?” Youlan asked worriedly.

Not only did Shi Feng lose contact with the outside world for such a long period, but he had even spent all this time lying inside his virtual gaming cabin, completely reliant on the cabin’s Nutrient Solution to sustain himself. His physical body couldn’t be unaffected. Not to mention, he had just experienced such an intense battle and had a Soul Mark placed on him. Who knew if that Soul Mark would have any side effects or not? If Shi Feng were to collapse from overwork now and suffered lasting damage to his body, it would be putting the cart before the horse.

“Relax. I’m really fine,” Shi Feng said, chuckling. “In fact, my mind is in exceptionally good condition right now. New ideas are popping up in my mind from time to time, and they’re making me eager to start training.”

“It’s good that you’re fine. However, if you feel sick, you must log off and rest immediately. You can leave the other matters to us,” Youlan said. After seeing that Shi Feng was indeed in good spirits, she stopped trying to persuade him to rest and left the office to handle the other tasks he had given her.

Meanwhile, after Youlan left, Shi Feng stopped browsing the eastern continent’s news. He then focused on the several strands of mist the Faux Saint Devourer had sent into his body.

This wasn’t his first time receiving a Soul Mark.

Normally, players couldn't sense the Soul Mark that plagued them. However, he could actually clearly sense it inside his mind. He could even sense the white mist circling his brain. This situation intrigued him.

Following which, Shi Feng focused all his attention on the several strands of mist meandering through his mind. His expression suddenly changed.

No, that's not right! This isn't a Soul Mark but a Soul Array!

Chapter 2665 – Magic Array that Upgrades the Soul

Looking at the strands of white mist hovering around in his mind, coupled with the countless sparkles of light around the mist, Shi Feng could not help being surprised.

In God's Domain, magic arrays were generally made out of Mana. However, some magic arrays were not made up of just Mana but had other things mixed in as well.

Meanwhile, the magic array he was looking at had traces of soul.

I never thought that the rumored Soul Array actually existed! Shi Feng revealed an ecstatic look on his face as he observed the white mist circulating in his brain.

He had only ever heard of Soul Arrays. He had never actually seen one before.

According to the rumors he had heard, the Soul Array was a magic array capable of changing a player's soul. Of course, there were also mentions that the Soul Array devoured a player's soul. In short, there were many rumors surrounding Soul Arrays.

However, there was one thing Shi Feng was certain of—a Soul Array could upgrade a player's soul.

Logically, it shouldn't be possible for players to upgrade their soul; that was only possible for NPCs. However, the Soul Array made the impossible possible. And according to the several testaments Shi Feng heard in his previous life, once a player had their soul upgraded, even an ordinary expert would become a powerhouse in God's Domain. In fact, some experts had even managed to reach Tier 5 thanks to the upgrade.

Nevertheless, most people that heard these rumors and testaments about the Soul Array's existence and functions had dismissed them as tall tales. They felt that even without the Soul Array, the experts that had given their testaments about the Soul Array would still have become powerhouses in God's Domain. Hence, most players in God's Domain had treated the existence of Soul Arrays as a joke.

Now, however, Shi Feng was actually looking at a Soul Array himself.

Of course, unless one was an Advanced Magician, one would most likely have a difficult time recognizing these strands of mist as a magic array. Most people would treat it as a Soul Mark.

Thankfully, I checked it in time. Had I waited a few more days, I might've lost this opportunity. Shi Feng sighed in relief when he saw the strands of silver mist gradually thinning out.

The Soul Array within him was being powered by the Faux Saint Devourer's soul energy and Mana. While replenishing the Soul Array's Mana was an easy task, replenishing the soul energy was not. At least, Shi Feng had no idea how he could do so. Hence, the Soul Array would not last for very long.

Of course, so long as this Soul Array existed, the Faux Saint monsters would be able to perceive his presence. The Soul Array's existence could be considered both good fortune and misfortune.

Having thought up to this point, Shi Feng promptly started studying the Soul Array in his brain.

The Soul Array had merely been imprinted onto his brain. The magic array itself wasn't active. If he wished to let the Soul Array exhibit its real effects, he would have to activate it first.

Sure enough, this Soul Array really is complex. Just from what I can see, it is made up of at least 40 Basic Master Magic Arrays and over a dozen Advanced Master Magic Arrays, three of which are almost at the Grandmaster standard. Moreover, I have to rely on my own spiritual will to activate this Soul Array, and even the slightest mistake will result in my soul getting devoured. It's no wonder some people labeled it a magic array that devours players' souls. After inspecting the Soul Array for half an hour, Shi Feng was flabbergasted by his findings.

The soul was something illusory. There was no describing it with words, much less upgrading it, or weakening it. However, the Soul Array within him could actually accomplish this feat easily. This was simply unbelievable.

Unfortunately, the risks involved in activating the Soul Array were ridiculous. Of the two possible outcomes, one was heaven, while the other was hell. There was nothing in between.

If ordinary experts were presented with such a choice, they probably would not hesitate to give activating the Soul Array a try. After all, the potential gains far outstripped the potential losses. Even if they got their souls damaged, the worst outcome would be remaining stuck at Tier 3 forever. For ordinary experts, this would most likely be the case anyway, even if they didn't have their souls weakened.

However, it was a completely different story for Shi Feng. His potential losses outweighed his potential gains. With his current standards, he should have no problem reaching Tier 5. If he had his soul damaged now, then reaching Tier 5 would become a problem. After all, the higher the tier players reached, the lower the importance of weapons, equipment, and Bloodlines. Instead, individual strength was what mattered most.

Do I give up? Shi Feng hesitated despite himself as he considered the gradually dissipating Soul Array in his mind.

As the Soul Array would be used on his soul, he only had one chance at activating it. If he messed up the activation, the Soul Array would backfire and devour his soul instead. However, if he succeeded, then the Soul Array would upgrade his soul.

No, it's not hopeless!

After debating from some time, Shi Feng thought of a possibility. He then took out Augustus's Damaged Heart from his bag.

It was incredibly rare for players to come across opportunities to upgrade their souls. So long as he successfully activated the Soul Array, he would have a much easier time challenging not only a Tier 4 Promotion Quest of greater difficulty but also future promotions. In fact, the help he could gain from an upgraded soul would be much greater than what he could gain from a piece of Legendary Equipment. It would be a huge waste to discard this opportunity.

Meanwhile, there were two ways he could drastically increase his chances of successfully activating the Soul Array.

The first method was to familiarize himself with the magic arrays used to make the entire Soul Array. However, the Soul Array was extremely complex. At his current standards, he might need two whole weeks to learn and memorize all the magic arrays.

The second method was to improve his mental state so that he could guide his spiritual will through the Soul Array with greater precision.

For others, both of these methods would be incredibly difficult. However, that was not the case for Shi Feng.

Augustus's Damaged Heart was capable of releasing Eternal Energy when activated. Eternal Energy was many times superior to Mana. It could elevate a player's mental state to its very peak. Be it familiarizing himself with the Soul Array or guiding his spiritual will through the Soul Array, Eternal Energy would be of great help.

With Eternal Energy, his chances of successfully activating the Soul Array would increase considerably.

The only problem was that Augustus's Damaged Heart had a three-month Cooldown.

Of course, there was also the option of using one God Crystal to circumvent the Cooldown. While this was incredibly expensive, spending one God Crystal to upgrade his soul would be well worth it.

Following which, Shi Feng took out the last God Crystal he had and placed it inside Augustus's Damaged Heart. He then activated the heart's magic array.

Immediately, streams of purple mist flowed out of Augustus's Heart and converged around Shi Feng. At the same time, a refreshing feeling spread across his body. His thoughts also became much clearer than before.

Good! Let's begin!

Taking a deep breath, Shi Feng started carefully analyzing the Soul Array's components one after another.

Two hours...

Four hours...

Six hours...

Originally, it should've taken Shi Feng at least a dozen days to learn the Soul Array. However, with the help of Eternal Energy, he learned and familiarized himself with all of the Soul Array's components in just a little over seven hours. He had even achieved rough mastery of a pseudo-Grandmaster Magic Array that could be used to exert a little control over souls.

Now that I've familiarized myself with all of the magic arrays, next up will be to utilize my spiritual will to activate them!

Looking at the Soul Array in his mind, he could not help some slight nervousness. Although he had familiarized himself with all of the component arrays, activating them was an entirely different matter. After all, the activation of each magic array required him to split his spiritual will into multiple strands. The difficulty of doing so was incredibly high.

After mentally preparing himself for several minutes, Shi Feng then started guiding his spiritual will through the magic arrays in his mind.

One magic array activated...

Two magic arrays activated...

Three magic arrays activated...

With each subsequent magic array Shi Feng activated, the difficulty increased. Initially, he needed to split his spiritual will only into three strands. By the fourth magic array, that number increased to six.

Fortunately, for an expert like Shi Feng, such a task was not particularly difficult. Hence, the activation of the magic arrays proceeded in an orderly manner.

Time passed quickly. Before Shi Feng realized it, more than 20 minutes had gone by already. At this point, the sweat from his forehead had already drenched the light armor he wore.

The last one!

The final magic array actually required Shi Feng to split his spiritual will into 17 strands. This final magic array was also the one he was most familiar with.

Peng!

Suddenly, a crisp sound echoed in his mind.

In the next moment, the Soul Array's core magic array shattered, followed by the shattering of the other component arrays in a domino effect.

Meanwhile, the several strands of white mist circulating in Shi Feng's mind transformed into countless particles of light that merged into his brain.

Is it done?

Shi Feng was stunned when he saw this scene inside his mind.

Chapter 2666 – Soul Upgraded, Natural Domain!

Zero Wing's Residence, Guild Leader's Office:

Sitting quietly on his chair, Shi Feng suddenly opened his eyes, his mind roiling with confusion.

Just a second ago, he clearly sensed that he had successfully activated the core magic array. In the next second, however, the Soul Array had shattered so thoroughly that no traces remained whatsoever. It was as if the Soul Array had never existed in his mind.

“What is going on here? Did I succeed or fail?”

After confirming the absence of the Soul Array, Shi Feng tried moving his body a little. However, he did not detect any changes or discomfort in his body. It was as if everything that had happened was an illusion.

From what he understood of the Soul Array, so long as players successfully activated it, their souls would receive an upgrade, and their game character’s natural talent would receive a significant improvement. On the other hand, if players failed to activate the Soul Array, their souls would get devoured, and their natural talent would deteriorate significantly, which would, in turn, eliminate almost all chances for further improvement.

However, he currently didn’t feel any different from before he tried activating the Soul Array. Both his physical body and mental state felt normal, neither more active nor sluggish.

“Could this Soul Array be a sham?”

After pondering for some time, Shi Feng could come up with only this conclusion. Instead of the real deal, the “Soul Array” planted in his mind was merely a somewhat special Soul Mark. No other explanation made sense.

Of course, there was one other possibility—all the information he obtained regarding the Soul Array in the past was false. The Soul Array did not possess the ability to alter a player's soul at all, and everyone who supposedly experienced these effects had only been imagining things.

At this point, Shi Feng could not help but sigh.

If that really was the case, then he had suffered a huge loss this time.

He had spent one God Crystal to reset the Cooldown on Augustus's Damaged Heart. Previously, in order to help out the Guild's core members, he had spent most of the God Crystals he had on hand and kept only one for himself, just in case. Now, he had wasted his last God Crystal.

Just as a wave of depression washed over Shi Feng, Youlan knocked on his door and entered the room.

"Guild Leader, Melancholic and the others have arrived. In addition, the 300-plus disabled NPCs are already in the Residence's plaza. We can start the ceremony at any time," Youlan said, finding the look of depression on Shi Feng's face a little strange.

"Alright. Have the NPCs wait on the second underground floor first. Have Melancholic make the necessary preparations as well. I still need some time to myself," Shi Feng said, nodding.

"I'll inform them, then," Youlan said before leaving the office.

After she left, Shi Feng took out the Memory Crystal the Crimson-eyed Sword Saint had given him. Since Augustus's Heart was still pumping out Eternal Energy, he planned to use this opportunity to learn Elvoze's Legacy.

In God's Domain, God Crystals were rarer than even Epic Weapons and Equipment. Coming across one was highly dependent on luck.

Now that he had wasted a God Crystal to activate Augustus's Heart, he naturally couldn't let even a second of its duration go to waste. Otherwise, he would have to wait three months or obtain another God Crystal to activate it again.

The instant Shi Feng tried to inject his Mana into the Memory Crystal, a white mist actually formed around the crystal, stunning him.

"This... Materialized Mana? How is this possible?"

Mana was intangible. Players could only rely on their senses and imagination to control it. Even then, they could exert only simple control over Mana. Trying to concentrate the density of thin Mana was beyond even Tier 4 players who had basic control over Mana.

Normally, players would be capable of such a feat only after reaching the Advanced Master Magician standard.

Shi Feng had just recently reached the Intermediate Master Magician standard, yet this materialized Mana indicated that he had actually reached the Advanced Master Magician standard already. He could hardly believe it.

An Advanced Master Magician!

Although the Magician class was only a sub-class in God's Domain, the Advanced Master Magician standard was a realm all Tier 4 experts sought to reach.

At the Advanced Master Magician standard, players could rely on their will to manipulate the Mana around them, utilizing the ambient Mana as if it were an extension of their bodies. They could have their own Natural Domain!

An ordinary Tier 3 player who reached the Advanced Master Magician standard would be invincible among all opponents below Tier 4—the true Tier 4 standard, not monsters or players that possessed Basic Attributes at the Tier 4 standard. One could easily imagine how powerful the Advanced Master Magician sub-class was.

“Could this be the Soul Array's effects?” This was the only explanation Shi Feng could come up with for this situation after giving the matter some thought.

Manipulating intangible Mana was an incredibly complex task. Players needed a lot of time to adapt their minds before they could do it.

Now, however, he could exert a great degree of control over Mana despite barely putting any thought to the task. It was as if his mind had automated this process for him.

“Amazing! Truly amazing! The change to my magical talent is simply heaven-defying!” Shi Feng was filled with an indescribable sense of shock as he controlled the Mana Domain that had naturally formed around him.

Currently, he could freely control all the Mana within a 30-yard radius as if it were one of his limbs. With just a thought, he could have the ambient Mana attack someone. Moreover, this attack would carry power at the peak of Tier 3—just by him materializing the ambient Mana. If he were to use a magic array, the power he could exhibit would be even greater.

After a brief moment of excitement, Shi Feng calmed himself and put away the Crimson-eyed Sword Saint's Memory Crystal. He then took out a tattered notebook from his bag.

"Originally, I thought that I could learn this thing's contents only after reaching Tier 4. I never dreamed that I could actually learn them now. That Faux Saint Devourer really has helped me a bunch," Shi Feng muttered, chuckling as he looked at the notebook in his hands.

The notebook he held was none other than the Mana Forging Notes he had received from the Famed Smith Alba Gray. Although he had only one volume of the Mana Forging Notes, the value of this one volume could easily rival that of a Legendary item. It was an item that the various empires of God's Domain would go crazy over.

This was because the forging techniques recorded within the Mana Forging Notes could serve as the foundation of an empire.

Of course, learning the recorded forging techniques was an incredibly difficult task. Firstly, one had to have reached the Advanced Master Magician standard.

This requirement was because Alba Gray's Mana forging techniques were different from conventional forging techniques, which prioritized the materials used. Instead, Alba Gray's techniques prioritized Mana, while the materials used were only of secondary importance. One could consider Alba Gray's techniques a kind of lost ancient technology.

Shi Feng immediately started manipulating the Mana around him to break the Mana Seal on the notebook.

In order to remove the Mana Seal, one needed to use one's Mana to decode it. Utilizing brute force would permanently destroy the notebook's contents.

The Mana Seal consisted of 27 magic arrays, every one of which was at the Basic Grandmaster standard. The degree of precision one needed to have when decoding these magic arrays was akin to threading a needle. Only those capable of freely manipulating Mana would succeed in lifting the Mana Seal.

This was also the reason why Shi Feng had left the Mana Forging Notes sitting inside his bag all this time.

One array... Two arrays... Three arrays...

After working on the Mana Seal for more than two hours, Shi Feng finally decoded the last magic array on the Mana Forging Notes.

Immediately, all Mana within his office seemed to have been summoned, as it surged toward the Mana Forging Notes. This Mana then transformed into texts and images that flowed into his brain.

For a time, Shi Feng felt as if his head would explode.

The amount of information contained within the Mana Forging Notes was comparable to that of the Small Mobile Fortress Design. If not for his Concentration having reached the Tier 4 standard already, he would've most definitely lost consciousness.

The information transfer continued for 20 minutes. Then, the Mana Forging Notes closed itself, and the Mana Seal reappeared on it. As for Shi Feng, he slumped back in his chair, his complexion indescribably pale. However, despite his miserable state, his eyes sparkled with joy and shock.

Before Shi Feng could snap out of his daze, he suddenly received a call request from Youlan.

“Guild Leader, we just received news that the Faux Saint monster army is currently crossing Star-Moon Kingdom’s borders. Rough estimates put its numbers at over four million. We have also spotted some of Saint’s Hand’s members among the monsters,” Youlan reported anxiously.

“They’re finally here?” Shi Feng revealed a faint smile on his face when he heard Youlan’s words. “Have Melancholic and the others ready the materials. I’ll head over immediately.”

Chapter 2667 – Foundation Skyrockets

Silverwing Town, Zero Wing’s Residence, second underground floor:

At this moment, over 300 NPCs stood inside an underground hall, which was half the size of a football field. These NPCs all looked old and injured. The 100-plus Tier 3 experts of Zero Wing present could not help their confusion over the presence of these NPCs.

“With the situation outside so tense already, why did the Guild Leader gather us here instead of having us prepare for battle?” a tall and thin Level 115 man wearing the emblem of Zero Wing’s main force reserve member muttered, perturbed.

This tall and thin man was once the vice commander of an adventurer team. He had joined Zero Wing not that long ago and had gained his position as a reserve member of the main force only after Shi Feng

had left the eastern continent. Hence, he did not have a very clear idea of just how powerful the Guild's foundations were.

What the man understood very clearly was just how powerful the Faux Saint monsters were—especially after their numbers reached a certain scale. Several million Faux Saint monsters charging toward Silverwing Town was definitely a disaster.

However, instead of further strengthening the town's defenses, Shi Feng had actually gathered all of the Guild's Tier 3 reserve main force members tasked with defending Silverwing Town in this basement hall. In fact, he had even kept them waiting here for such a long time with nothing to do but look at these old and ailing NPCs.

This was simply insane!

At this moment, many of the Tier 3 experts present were also confused by this situation.

Silverwing Town was by no means a small place. There were many locations that needed defending. They still needed to organize the Guild's other Tier 3 experts and Tier 2 members. They had already been tight for time, yet they had actually wasted two whole hours idling here.

The players gathered could not help but wonder if Shi Feng had given up on Silverwing Town already.

To Zero Wing's core upper echelon, Silverwing Town might be just another one of the Guild's Residences. However, for players like themselves who had lived in Silverwing Town all this time, it was their home.

Just as everyone was grumbling about the current situation, Youlan and Melancholic Smile walked to the staircase leading upstairs. They then flanked the staircase and quietly looked at the man descending it, a respectful expression appearing on their faces.

“Guild Leader, all Tier 3 reserve main force members with a position of Viscount or above are here. They have already signed the confidentiality contract. With the Personal Guard slots they have, we will be able to accommodate all of the NPCs gathered,” Melancholic Smile quietly reported to Shi Feng.

“Alright, let’s begin,” Shi Feng said, nodding.

Originally, he had been keeping the Water of Life top-secret. After all, only by doing so would he have an easier time collecting injured NPCs with good potential. However, now that God’s Domain had developed to such a state, he no longer had the leeway for such secrecy.

After Shi Feng said so, Melancholic Smile had the gathered NPCs line up before her. She then distributed the Water of Life to every one of them, the situation further confusing the reserve main force members present.

“What are they doing?”

“What dense life energy!”

“Why do all these NPCs look so excited?”

Many people knew of the Water of Life in God’s Domain, but not many people had seen it in person.

In the eyes of Zero Wing's reserve main force members, Melancholic Smile was merely distributing potions brimming with life energy to the NPCs gathered. However, when these NPCs received the potion, their gloomy and lifeless expressions immediately brightened up, their eyes glowing with hope and energy. Every one of these NPCs even excitedly thanked Melancholic Smile and swore loyalty to her. This situation baffled the Zero Wing members.

They could all tell that these NPCs were not Personal Guards but independent NPCs. There should be no way these NPCs would show such gratitude toward players, much less take the initiative to swear loyalty to a player.

As the reserve main force members were stewing in confusion, frightening auras burst forth from the gathered NPCs, one after another.

Previously, none of these gathered NPCs was a match even for ordinary Tier 2 NPCs. Now, however, even the weakest of them radiated an aura that made even the Refinement Realm experts present shudder.

When the auras of these 300-plus NPCs flooded the hall, the 100-plus reserve main force members could not help stumbling back with nervous expressions as they cautiously eyed the NPCs before them. At this moment, they could tell that, so long as these NPCs willed it, none of them would leave this basement alive.

Not to mention, the strongest few auras even made them feel as if they stood before a bottomless abyss. The owners of these auras were definitely not just ordinary Tier 3 NPCs. While bathed in these auras, everyone felt as if they were standing inside a muddy swamp, their bodies incredibly sluggish. In fact, they had also lost control over the ambient Mana around them.

"A Mana Domain?!"

At this moment, even Youlan goggled in shock at this situation. Although she knew that Shi Feng and Melancholic Smile had gathered these old and ailing NPCs for a purpose, she never imagined that they would be carrying out such an ambitious enterprise.

Not only did they instantly turn 300-plus old and ailing NPCs into lively tigers, but three of these NPCs even possessed a Mana Domain. This was simply unbelievable.

Normally, a naturally occurring Mana Domain was something only Tier 4 NPCs possessed. A Mana Domain was also the biggest difference between Tier 3 and Tier 4 NPCs and the reason why Tier 4 NPCs could trounce Tier 3 NPCs.

It was also because of this Mana Domain that Saint's Hand had never dared stretch their hands toward Silverwing Town. After all, Silverwing Town had the protection of the Magic King Craig Midlands, who had already been promoted to Tier 4. In front of the Magic King, Tier 3 players would be one-shot kills.

Now, out of the 300-plus NPCs present, there were actually three NPCs with a Mana Domain. This meant that these three NPCs were only one short step away from Tier 4.

Amazing! The harvest this time is massive! Shi Feng himself was surprised by this outcome.

Although there were no Tier 4 NPCs in the batch of recovered NPCs this time, just gaining three Tier 3 NPCs with a Mana Domain was plenty amazing already. After all, so long as these three NPCs received sufficient resources, reaching Tier 4 should be a shoo-in.

Moreover, aside from these three NPCs, the quality of the other 300-plus NPCs was considerably good as well.

Of the other 300-plus NPCs, one actually possessed Growth Potential at the Dark-Gold rank, 11 at the Fine-Gold rank, 151 at the Secret-Silver rank, and the rest at the Mysterious-Iron rank.

In God's Domain, NPCs that possessed Growth Potential at the Fine-Gold rank or above could only be found by luck. Aqua Rose had already swept through the old and ailing NPCs of numerous countries once. The fact that they could obtain so many NPCs at the Dark-Gold and Fine-Gold standard in the second batch was truly incredible.

After all, any random Tier 3 NPC at the Fine-Gold rank could suppress current Tier 3 Domain Realm experts. Even the various superpowers would not possess more than a handful of such existences.

Now, Zero Wing had just gained 15 of such NPCs. Moreover, three of them possessed a Mana Domain, of which two were at the Fine-Gold rank and one was at the Dark-Gold rank. If the various superpowers were to learn of this haul, they would definitely die of envy.

Meanwhile, after a brief moment of silence in the hall, Shi Feng turned his gaze toward the reserve main force members assembled before him.

"Alright, stop daydreaming. Line up according to the number assigned to you and start signing a contract with these NPCs," Shi Feng said with a clap of his hands.

Shi Feng's words triggered an uproar among the gathered players.

"Crap! Is this for real!?"

"Even the weakest among these NPCs is at the Mysterious-Iron rank, right?"

“We can contract these NPCs as our Personal Guards?”

Everyone felt as if they were in a dream when they heard Shi Feng’s words. The fact that the Guild could recruit so many powerful NPCs was already plenty amazing. Now, however, they were being told that they could have these NPCs as their Personal Guards. They couldn’t believe their ears.

The various first-rate Guilds treated even Mysterious-Iron Guards as family heirlooms. Normally, only the Guild Elders would have the qualifications to contract such NPCs as Personal Guards. As for Secret-Silver Guards, they belonged to the Guild Leader and Grand Elders. Everyone else should not even think of obtaining them.

Now, however, Zero Wing was actually letting mere reserve members of its main force contract with Mysterious-Iron Guards and above. This situation was even more fabulous than if the Guild had granted every one of them a Level 100-plus Epic Weapon.

However, in no time at all, everyone snapped out of their daze and dashed forward to line up before Shi Feng.

As for the distribution of the NPCs, Shi Feng first granted every player in line a Secret-Silver NPC. As for the two Dark-Gold NPCs, he assigned Melancholic Smile and Youlan one each. He also granted both of them and Liang Jing one Fine-Gold NPC each. This way, the three of them would no longer have to worry about their security when traveling around God’s Domain. As for the remaining Fine-Gold NPCs, he assigned them to the 11 people in line who had made the most contributions to the Guild. Upon seeing this, the other Zero Wing members inevitably grew envious.

That was a Fine-Gold Guard they were talking about!

With the strength of a Fine-Gold Guard, one would not have to worry even when coming across a 100-man, Tier 3 team. In fact, the Tier 3 team would most likely try to avoid the Fine-Gold Guard.

“This is wonderful! With the addition of these Personal Guards, we should have no problem withstanding the Faux Saint monsters’ attack!” Youlan breathed out a sigh of relief when the distribution of the Personal Guards was over.

Although Silverwing Town was only an Advanced Town, Zero Wing had invested plenty of resources and funds into its development. While its defensive capability might not rival that of a Guild City, its capability was not that far off, either. Not to mention, the town also had five Magic Towers and a Tier 4 NPC protecting it. With the addition of so many Tier 3 Personal Guards, there shouldn’t be any problem defending Silverwing Town from the Faux Saint monsters.

“Withstand?” Shi Feng shook his head at Youlan’s sigh. Sneering, he continued, “Since they dare to come, then they shouldn’t think of leaving anymore!”

After saying so, Shi Feng tasked Youlan and Melancholic Smile with arranging Silverwing Town’s defenses. As for himself, he made his way to Silverwing Town’s Town Lord’s Mansion.

Inside the control room of the Town Lord’s Mansion, Shi Feng took out 600 Mana Stones and arranged them above the core magic array.

The Mana Forging Notes recorded plenty of powerful items. However, the highlight of the volume he received from Alba Gray was a special magic array capable of strengthening other magic arrays to whole new heights.

Of course, this improved strength did not come for free. The strengthening would triple the consumption of the target magic array. The target magic array would also take longer to recover naturally. However, compared to the possible benefits, this was a small price to pay.

When Shi Feng finished drawing the special magic array using the Mana Stones, a crimson pillar suddenly emerged from the core magic array.

Following which, the sound of a system announcement suddenly entered Shi Feng's ears.

...

System: Silverwing Town has met the qualifications for promotion to a Basic City. Do you wish to promote it to a Basic City?

Chapter 2668 – Siege Battle at Silverwing Town

The town can be promoted, just like that?

Shi Feng was surprised as he looked at the notification window at the corner of his vision.

Although Silverwing Town was developing rapidly and its promotion to a Basic City was only a matter of time, its attaining the promotion qualifications so soon caught him unawares. He never thought that there would be such a benefit to strengthening a town's core magic array.

The defense of a Basic City was significantly more substantial than that of an Advanced Town. The number of NPC guards one could hire would also undergo a qualitative transformation. This boost was especially advantageous for strongholds located in the Orc Empire.

Recently, more and more players had started operating in the Orc Empire. Due to the very low number of player strongholds there, any stronghold that could ensure the safety of its players would become extremely popular, which would, in turn, guarantee its rapid development.

However, despite receiving this unexpected boon, Shi Feng did not choose to promote Silverwing Town yet. Instead, he focused on the crimson light pillar that had appeared at the center of the room. He then took out piles of Magic Crystals and started channeling the Mana of the light pillar into Silverwing Town's various magic arrays.

While upgrading Silverwing Town now would indeed raise its defensive capability by a significant margin, doing so would come at a great price—all the players inside the town would be teleported out of the town during the promotion process.

With the Faux Saint army approaching, there was simply no time to upgrade Silverwing Town. Otherwise, Zero Wing's members might have to fight the millions of Faux Saint monsters without the help of the city's defensive structures.

Moreover, now that he had strengthened Silverwing Town's core magic array, its performance would surpass even that of the core magic arrays of ordinary Basic Cities. There was simply no need to take such a big risk.

The rampaging Mana inside the hall started flowing into the core magic array, together with the Mana the Magic Crystals released. The core magic array then directed this Mana into the various magic arrays throughout Silverwing Town, reinforcing them.

Three arrays... Six arrays... Nine arrays.

As Silverwing Town's magic arrays got strengthened one after another, the town's ambient Mana changed.

By the time half of Silverwing Town's magic arrays were strengthened, a layer of red mist had appeared above the town, enveloping it completely.

"Quick, look! Why is there a red mist above the town?!"

"What's going on? Is this Zero Wing's doing?"

"It's highly possible. The ambient Mana seems to have become slightly wilder. So long as we use this Mana, the power of our Skills and Spells should increase substantially. With this, we should have an easier time repelling the Faux Saint army."

...

The players in Silverwing Town quickly noticed the changes to the town's Mana and could not help discussing them. Many of the adventurer team members preparing for battle relaxed slightly.

Silverwing Town was one of the few player strongholds in the Orc Empire that were open to independent players. Hence, many independent players had decided to support Zero Wing against the approaching Faux Saint army. In addition, Zero Wing had also set up a contribution system for the players participating in the town's defense; through this system, players could earn contribution points and exchange these points for rewards. Hence, even more independent players had chosen to stay and fight for Silverwing Town.

“It seems Black Flame isn’t completely unprepared for this upcoming battle.” Illusory Words, who currently stood on the town’s wall, sighed in relief when she saw the red mist covering the town.

After seeing Shi Feng’s previous performance against the Faux Saint Devourer, Crimson Emperor had decided to go all-out in helping Zero Wing defend Silverwing Town. However, Illusory Words wasn’t confident of success. After all, the Faux Saint monsters were simply too many. Moreover, even the weakest Faux Saint monster was at the Great Lord rank. The most they could do was persevere against the Faux Saint monsters’ assault.

That was right!

Persevere!

With their current forces, repelling the Faux Saint army would be impossible. All they could do was persevere.

Fortunately, Shi Feng had killed the Faux Saint Devourer. With this, even the strongest Faux Saint monster remaining would be only at the Grand Lord rank. Silverwing Town’s defensive magic array would have no problem tanking the hits of Grand Lords. Meanwhile, so long as they ensured the continuous replenishment of the energy reserves of the town’s defensive magic array before they got depleted, the Faux Saint monsters would not be able to take even a single step into Silverwing Town.

With the intellect of those Faux Saint monsters, they wouldn’t bother wasting too much time on a single task. After seeing that they couldn’t break through the town’s defensive magic array even after several days, they would naturally retreat.

“It seems Black Flame has quite a few tricks up his sleeves. He’s actually able to make the town’s Mana go berserk. With this, the strength of the town’s defensive magic array should’ve increased by quite a bit.”

“While the town’s defensive magic array has indeed been improved, it will still need to withstand all those Faux Saint Destroyers. You should know that Faux Saint monsters have destroyed NPC cities before. What can a Guild Town possibly do against an army of them?”

The various superpowers’ members hidden inside the town disdained the transformation to Silverwing Town’s Mana. They also considered Shi Feng very foolish. While the performance of the town’s defensive magic array had indeed improved significantly, there was still a limit to the magic array’s energy reserves.

Faced with the attacks of tens of thousands of Grand Lord ranked Faux Saint Destroyers, how long could the magic array’s energy reserves possibly last?

Even the defensive magic arrays of NPC cities had fallen swiftly before the Faux Saint monsters. In fact, many of these NPC cities also had a large number of Level 150 NPC guards and a Level 180, Tier 3 Magistrate to defend them. In the end, the Faux Saint monsters still managed to drain the defensive magic array’s energy reserves and destroyed the cities.

...

Shortly after Silverwing Town’s transformation, news of it quickly reached the Fire Dragon Empire’s Flame Dragon City.

“Interesting. Since he’s able to agitate the Mana of a town to increase the performance of the town’s defensive magic array, it seems he didn’t offend those Faux Saint monsters and Saint’s Hand without any forethought.” A smirk appeared on Cold Shadow’s face when she read the report she just received.

“What a pity. This development might have posed a problem for those Faux Saint monsters and Saint’s Hand a few days ago, but it is futile now.”

After Cold Shadow said so, she turned her gaze to the video livestream playing before her.

What this livestream showed was none other than the Faux Saint army that was marching toward Silverwing Town and was currently within 5,000 yards of Silverwing Town already. The monsters were so numerous that they covered all the land around Silverwing Town. From what she could see, there were easily more than 100,000 Faux Saint Destroyers there—almost double the initial projections.

Moreover, aside from the Faux Saint Destroyers, there were also quite a few gigantic figures moving amidst this army, and the other Faux Saint monsters clustered around these gigantic figures.

At this moment, White Feather entered the VIP room Cold Shadow occupied and said respectfully, “Vice Guild Leader, the various superpowers’ representatives have arrived already. Should we head over now?”

“Alright, let’s go.” Cold Shadow nodded. She then dismissed the video playing before her and left the Scorching Flame Restaurant.

...

At the same time, the players standing guard atop Silverwing Town’s walls were dumbfounded by the sight before them.

“This... How is this possible...”

“No! This can’t be real! This must be a joke!”

When the players standing on the walls looked at the massive army before them, despair and reluctance overwhelmed them.

Eight!

There were eight Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourers!

“Is this the strength that Saint’s Hand has been relying on all this time?”

Illusory Words, who similarly stood on the town’s wall, could not help a bitter smile when she saw the eight Faux Saint Devourers.

She had anticipated that Saint’s Hand had kept a trump card hidden. Otherwise, it wouldn’t have had the confidence to take action so close to Silverwing Town, nor would it have put its precious Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourer at such great risk.

However, she never thought that Saint’s Hand had actually managed to produce so many Faux Saint Devourers already.

At this moment, even the various spectating superpowers were stunned by this situation.

Too strong!

The Faux Saint army boasted not only over 100,000 Faux Saint Destroyers but also eight Faux Saint Devourers. With such a force, let alone destroying Silverwing Town, even capturing one of Star-Moon Kingdom's Main Cities wouldn't be a problem. After all, the only real threat in Main City ranked NPC cities was the Level 180, Tier 4 Magistrates tasked with defending them. As for the remaining Level 150 NPCs that were at Tier 2 or Tier 3, while they did pose a problem, they weren't undefeatable.

...

At the same time, several thousand players wearing the Guild Emblem of Saint's Hand were hiding in a forest several thousand yards away from Silverwing Town. Among them, 1,000 magical-class players were currently drawing a gigantic and complex magic array, which constantly drew on the ambient Mana and reduced its density.

"Black Flame! I'll show you just how foolish your previous actions are and make you regret everything you've done!" Thousand Eyes, who currently radiated an extremely weak aura, sneered as he looked at the Silverwing Town displayed on the Magic Mirror before him. "No, I should say that you won't even have time to regret! Your Silverwing Town will turn to dust before you know it!"

...

Meanwhile, inside Silverwing Town's Town Lord's Mansion, while Shi Feng was quietly inspecting the performance of the town's strengthened magic arrays through the core magic array, Youlan burst into the room with an ugly expression on her face.

"Guild Leader, according to the information we received from the walls, aside from over 100,000 Faux Saint Destroyers, the Faux Saint army this time also has...eight Faux Saint Devourers," Youlan said in a grim tone as she gazed at Shi Feng.

It might be fine if only one or two Faux Saint Devourers had appeared. At that time, they could simply have Craig Midlands take action. However, the appearance of eight Faux Saint Devourers completely messed up their plans. With so many Faux Saint Devourers attacking, it wouldn't matter even if Shi Feng transformed into a Black Dragon again.

"They're here?" Seeing the grim look on Youlan's face, Shi Feng said calmly, "Let's go take a look, then."

Chapter 2669 – Power of Mana

Silverwing Town, main gate's wall:

Currently, a large number of players were trying to squeeze their way up to the top of the wall, which was over a dozen meters high, to get a better look at the Faux Saint army. However, when these players arrived on top, every one of them found the scene that greeted them shocking.

The Faux Saint monsters were so numerous that their figures dotted the land all the way to the horizon. Moreover, even the weakest among them was a Level 110 Great Lord. As this endless army of monsters gradually encircled Silverwing Town, it looked as if night had descended. This scene alone already evoked fear in everyone.

"Why are there so many Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourers? Can we really stop them?"

Panic and despair swept through the independent players that had chosen to help defend Silverwing Town as they stared at the scene before them.

Originally, they thought that, with over 300,000 players fighting for Silverwing Town, combined with the town's defensive magic array, they should still have a chance to emerge victorious. After all, to win, they simply had to distract 50,000 or 60,000 Faux Saint Destroyers for a certain period.

However, the Faux Saint army that appeared before Silverwing Town was far stronger than they anticipated—over 100,000 Faux Saint Destroyers and eight Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourers. Everyone's confidence vanished at the sight of this army.

At this moment, let alone the independent players present, even Unyielding Heart and Illusory Words were shocked.

"Over a hundred thousand Faux Saint Destroyers and eight Faux Saint Devourers. These Faux Saint monsters really think highly of us," Unyielding Heart, who had reached Level 116 already, said, a bitter smile forming on his face as he took in the eight gigantic figures standing some distance away from Silverwing Town.

In order to assist Zero Wing in defending Silverwing Town, Unyielding Soul had dispatched its strongest trump card legion and even sent over two Tier 4 Summoning Scrolls and more than a hundred Heavy Ballistas. According to his estimates, this force, combined with Crimson Emperor's and Zero Wing's, should have no problem defending Silverwing Town.

However, it would seem that he had still underestimated the strength of these Faux Saint monsters. At this moment, let alone the eight Faux Saint Devourers, just the 100,000-plus Faux Saint Destroyers were already more than enough to instill despair in everyone.

After all, the Faux Saint Destroyers were Grand Lord ranked monsters. Ordinary Tier 3 experts couldn't take them on one-on-one. Only multiple people working together, with the help of the town's war

weapons, could prevent these Faux Saint Destroyers from attacking the town's defensive magic array and walls.

As for the Tier 4 creatures they could summon, these things would be far from adequate against tens of thousands of Faux Saint Destroyers. The only thing these summoned creatures could do was defend a portion of the town's walls and reduce the pressure the town's players faced.

However, with the eight Faux Saint Devourers around, these Tier 4 summoned creatures wouldn't even be able to lessen the pressure on the town's defenders.

Illusory Words nodded in agreement with Unyielding Heart's words, complex emotions flickering in her eyes.

"We can only try our best to defend the town..." A sense of powerlessness overwhelmed Illusory Words as she looked at the Faux Saint Devourers several thousand yards away commanding the other Faux Saint monsters.

Although she had confidence in Shi Feng, she doubted that even he had expected such a powerful army to appear at Silverwing Town's doorstep. In fact, even the various superpowers did not expect the Faux Saint monsters to develop at such a frightening rate.

After all, only a little more than a day had passed since Crimson Emperor had learned about the birth of the first Faux Saint Devourer, yet the Faux Saint monsters had managed to add eight more Faux Saint Devourers to their number.

Even if they could stop these Faux Saint monsters for a day, it was highly unlikely they could stop these monsters for two days.

During the time everyone was sighing and feeling powerless, a golden beam of light suddenly appeared in a forest some distance away from Silverwing Town, shooting straight into the sky. Even from several thousand yards away, the beam was clearly visible.

Along with the appearance of this golden beam, the dusky sky became as bright as day. At the same time, the density of the Mana surrounding Silverwing Town thinned out considerably as if something sucked the ambient Mana away. Now, even players who weren't particularly sensitive to Mana felt a slight discomfort.

"This is...the Soul Annihilation Curse!" Illusory Words's complexion turned indescribably grim when she saw the pillar of Mana rising into the sky. "Are Saint's Hand's people crazy?! They actually used such an area sealing curse!"

The Soul Annihilation Curse was a super-rare sealing barrier in God's Domain. When activated, it could lock down a very large area, preventing players from leaving the sealed space while the barrier was still up, and thin out the Mana within the barrier. Meanwhile, not only would players that died within the barrier suffer a much more severe death penalty, but their souls would be weakened for 15 days as well.

The cost to activate the Soul Annihilation Curse was equally astonishing—the permanent sacrifice of 1,000 Level 100-plus, Tier 2 magical-class players and 100 Tier 3 magical-class players.

This was a permanent death they were talking about!

The players that activated this magic array would have their game characters permanently deleted, and they would have to start all over again if they wished to continue playing.

Due to this reason, although quite a few superpowers had obtained the Soul Annihilation Curse, none of them ever dared to use it.

However, as Silverwing Town's players stood dazed in shock, a gigantic Magic Mirror suddenly appeared above the town. It displayed Saint's Hand's members, and standing at the lead of these players was none other than Thousand Eyes, whom Shi Feng had killed just recently.

"Black Flame, you didn't see this coming, right?" Thousand Eyes sneered. "I said that you'd regret it. Weren't you very powerful? Now, I'll have you watch as everyone in Silverwing Town gets devoured by the Faux Saint army!"

When Thousand Eyes's chilling words echoed throughout Silverwing Town, the players in the town shuddered involuntarily.

This was simply madness!

Saint's Hand had sacrificed not only 1,000 Level 100-plus Tier 2 magical-class players but also 100 Tier 3 experts. This was something even Super Guilds wouldn't dare to do. After all, even to a Super Guild, 100 Tier 3 experts represented significant combat power.

"Zero Wing is truly doomed this time!"

"Sure enough, Saint's Hand is filled with a bunch of lunatics! They actually dare use such a card! With this, not only will Zero Wing and all of its allies have their members devoured by those Faux Saint monsters, but they'll even have their souls weakened as well!"

Despite being spectators, the various superpowers' members hidden inside Silverwing Town shuddered in fear when they saw the maniacal smile on Thousand Eyes's face.

While everyone was falling into despair, several figures appeared above Silverwing Town's main gate. One of these figures belonged to none other than Zero Wing's Guild Leader, Black Flame.

After arriving above the main gate, Shi Feng glanced at the Magic Mirror in the sky and said nonchalantly, "How noisy. Isn't it just a Soul Annihilation Curse? Do you think this thing is good for anything?"

Although Shi Feng did not speak very loudly, with the entire Silverwing Town dead silent right now, everyone heard his words very clearly.

Hence, the entire town immediately went into an uproar. No one ever thought that even after things had developed to such a point, Shi Feng would still dare to provoke Thousand Eyes. Was he so eager to die?

"Is he tired of living?"

"Pretending to be calm! We'll see how he continues pretending!"

"I'm guessing that Black Flame must've realized the hopelessness of the situation and is merely sassing to get the load off his chest."

When the various superpowers' members saw Shi Feng's calm expression and heard his bold claim through their Magic Mirrors, they could not help scoffing. The Soul Annihilation Curse itself indeed did

not pose any direct threat to players. However, the millions of Faux Saint monsters standing outside the town were definitely a nightmare for all players.

“You think it’s useless? In that case, let’s see if this Soul Annihilation Curse is really useless or not, once the Faux Saint army starts attacking!” Thousand Eyes said. Instead of getting angry at Shi Feng’s words, he started chuckling instead.

As soon as Thousand Eyes finished speaking, the Faux Saint monsters surrounding Silverwing Town promptly charged forward.

When the army of millions advanced, it looked as if a tsunami was sweeping across the land. The earth shattered underfoot, and explosions kept reverberating through the air. Everyone inside Silverwing Town gasped at the sight. Some Tier 3 experts even retreated unconsciously.

“So noisy!”

Shi Feng pointed a finger at three Faux Saint Devourers charging amidst the army.

Immediately, the five Magic Towers spread across Silverwing Town each released a crimson beam that converged in the middle of the town before shooting into the sky.

Before anyone could react, a gigantic, crimson beam descended upon the Faux Saint army.

The instant the crimson beam made contact, the earth shattered. Immediately afterward, the crimson beam expanded into the surroundings until it covered a 300-yard radius. When the beam disappeared, almost everything within the AOE had vanished without a trace.

Chapter 2670 – Silent Silverwing Town

When the crimson pillar outside Silverwing Town faded away, everyone momentarily froze and fell silent—the players inside the town as well as the Faux Saint monsters charging toward it. For a moment, time seemed to stop for Silverwing Town and its surroundings.

Just one hit!

Aside from the Grand Lord and Mythic ranked Faux Saint monsters, everything within the crimson beam's 300-yard radius had disappeared into the void. Not one of the 10,000 or so Faux Saint Saboteurs caught within the area survived. The magnitude of this attack was simply unbelievable.

As for the Faux Saint Destroyers and Faux Saint Devourers that remained alive, they were clearly heavily injured. Moreover, the Faux Saint Devourers were barely able to move, and they were currently struggling to escape the void that formed around them. The Faux Saint Destroyers were incapable of moving at all, only able to watch helplessly as the void slowly enveloping them closed and trapped them for the rest of their lives.

“This...”

Illusory Words and Unyielding Heart were momentarily at a loss for words when they saw this scene, shock and excitement flaring in their eyes.

This attack was simply too absurd!

This one attack not only exiled close to 1,000 Faux Saint Destroyers to the void but also heavily injured three Faux Saint Devourers. This outcome reduced the pressure Silverwing Town's defenders had to face significantly.

Meanwhile, when Saint's Heart's members saw this scene through their Magic Mirrors, they were similarly stunned. They never thought that Silverwing Town's Magic Towers possessed the power to heavily injure the Faux Saint Devourers.

"You just heavily injured three Faux Saint Devourers! This battle is nowhere close to over!" Thousand Eyes said nonchalantly when he saw Silverwing Town's players revealing joyous expressions.

It was very normal for war weapons to wreak large-scale destruction in a siege battle. While the power of Silverwing Town's Magic Towers somewhat exceeded their initial estimates, this difference would not affect the overall picture.

For the Faux Saint army, which consisted of over four million monsters, a loss of 10,000 monsters was practically negligible. Not to mention, the Magic Towers' attack had a very long Cooldown. By the time the Magic Towers were ready to attack again, the Faux Saint monsters would've long since arrived before Silverwing Town.

Moreover, the Faux Saint army went berserk because of the Magic Towers' attack. After the five remaining Faux Saint Devourers let loose angry roars, the other Faux Saint monsters resumed charging at Silverwing Town with even greater ferocity, their speed at least 20% faster than before.

Upon seeing this, the defending players standing atop Silverwing Town's walls could not help growing nervous.

The Magic Towers' combined attack was indeed astonishing, but the Faux Saint monsters, which had managed to instantly fill the gap in their battle formation, were even more astonishing. These monsters made it seem as if the previous attack never happened at all.

"All ballistas and turrets, prepare to fire! Aim for the densest locations as much as possible!"

When the Faux Saint army resumed its advance with even greater vigor, Unyielding Heart, who had commanded dozens of large-scale battles, immediately shouted out the necessary orders. At his behest, Silverwing Town's defenders promptly recovered from their fear and prepared to attack.

"All magical units, start chanting your incantations! Make sure those Destroyers don't get close to the walls!"

Similarly, Illusory Words commanded the magical-class players standing atop the walls to prepare their Spells. Afterward, she started chanting a Tier 3 Curse of her own.

As commands were issued one after another, the nervous and frightened defenders also gradually stabilized their emotions.

For a time, the defenders watched quietly as the Faux Saint army closed in.

One thousand three hundred yards...

One thousand two hundred yards...

One thousand yards...

“Fire!” Unyielding Heart shouted.

Immediately, hundreds of ballistas and dozens of Arrow Towers and Defense Turrets launched their attacks simultaneously, the firing sounds echoing throughout the town.

In the next moment, several hundred blazing streaks of light descended on the Faux Saint army like a meteor shower, the attacks shaking the ground and kicking up dust and dirt. Tens of thousands of Faux Saint monsters were also sent flying into the air, and huge craters formed wherever the attacks landed. The sight was simply spectacular.

However, contrary to everyone’s expectations, the Faux Saint army did not falter in the slightest. In no time at all, the endless Faux Saint monsters filled in the gaps created by the war weapons’ attacks, the madness of the Faux Saint monsters surpassing everyone’s expectations.

“Reload and aim for the vanguard!” Unyielding Heart shouted, a frown forming on his face when he saw this scene. Although he had long since expected this to happen, he still could not help his shock when actually witnessing it.

After several rounds of attacks from the town’s war weapons, although they had failed to kill even one Faux Saint Destroyer, they had killed quite a number of Faux Saint Saboteurs, as well as heavily injuring more than 200,000 Faux Saint Saboteurs. Unfortunately, compared to the Faux Saint army in its entirety, this number was still insignificant.

In the next moment, the first wave of Faux Saint monsters arrived within 100 yards of Silverwing Town's walls. Illusory Words and the other ranged players standing on the walls promptly released their strongest Skills and Spells. For a time, tens of thousands of Skills and Spells bombarded the Faux Saint monsters at the forefront.

However, just when everyone thought that the Faux Saint monsters would get hit and have their charge interrupted, a shocking scene occurred.

In the next moment, as if they were veterans of the battlefield, the Faux Saint monsters started wielding their weapons to block the incoming attacks, mitigating most of the damage from these attacks.

"How is this possible!?"

Purple Eye, who was casting her Spells on the town's wall, was stunned by this scene.

These Faux Saint monsters had even blocked a large portion of the attacks launched by Tier 3 experts. Only Tier 3 Refinement Realm experts and above managed to land their attacks on these Faux Saint monsters.

"Fools! Do you think the Faux Saint monsters before you are the same as those you met a few days ago?!" Thousand Eyes sneered as he looked at Silverwing Town's defenders.

Victory might be possible for Silverwing Town's players if they were going up against an army of ordinary monsters. However, they were up against the Faux Saint army. Every monster in the Faux Saint army possessed intellect surpassing that of ordinary monsters.

Thousand Eyes's words immediately silenced everyone.

Faced with such opponents, just how were they supposed to continue fighting?

Only the attacks of the war weapons and a small number of Tier 3 experts were effective; everyone else's were utterly useless.

During the time everyone was distracted by Thousand Eyes's words, the five intact Faux Saint Devourers suddenly leaped toward the space above the walls.

"Not good! Stop them!"

Unyielding Heart's complexion turned indescribably grim when he saw the Faux Saint Devourers launching an attack.

While the town's defensive magic array had indeed been strengthened, the Soul Annihilation Curse had thinned the ambient Mana considerably, effectively nullifying the upgrade the defensive magic array had just received. Moreover, an Advanced Town's defensive magic array couldn't hope to withstand the attacks of several Mythic monsters.

Before anyone could react, five spears tore through space and converged on a single point on the defensive magic array.

"A Combination Combat Technique?!"

Illusory Words goggled in shock at the five Faux Saint Devourers' attacks.

The fact that the Faux Saint monsters could use combat techniques was already plenty astonishing. Now, they actually used a Combination Combat Technique, something very few players could execute. This was simply a nightmare.

"Guild Leader Black Flame, what a pity. I never thought that you all would fall so quickly," Thousand Eyes said, a delighted smirk appearing on his face as he looked at Shi Feng, who had remained silent all this time.

So long as Silverwing Town's defensive magic array shattered, the players inside the town would be no different from lambs to the slaughter. The Tier 4 NPC guarding the town wouldn't matter. After all, even a ferocious tiger couldn't beat a pack of wolves.

Boom...

A loud explosion shook the entire battlefield, the shockwave of the impact so powerful that even the Faux Saint Destroyers nearby stumbled.

"It seems Zero Wing is really doomed now."

When the various superpowers' spectating members saw the shattered space above the walls, they shook their heads. The Faux Saint Devourers originally already possessed extraordinary strength. Now that they had used a Combination Combat Technique, the power of their joint attack reached the peak of Tier 4—which definitely wasn't something an Advanced Town's defensive magic array could block.

However, as the black void vanished and the dust settled, the various superpowers' members with gleeful expressions on their faces were stunned.

At this moment, the faint red barrier enveloping the town actually remained intact. In fact, it didn't even have the tiniest of cracks.

"This... How is this possible?!"

At this moment, let alone the various superpowers' spectating members, even Thousand Eyes gaped in shock, his eyes glued to the red barrier.

This was a Peak Tier 4 attack they were talking about!

During the time the entire battlefield had fallen silent, a voice suddenly came from the town's main gate and echoed throughout the battlefield.

"Is that it? If that is your strongest move, then we can indeed put an end to this farce!"

Chapter 2671 – Powerful Faux Saint Army

As Shi Feng's words echoed throughout the battlefield, a gigantic phantom world suddenly manifested in the sky above Silverwing Town. Along with the appearance of this phantom world, every Faux Saint

monster in the town's vicinity had their Basic Attributes reduced by a significant margin, the change causing a commotion all over the silent battlefield.

"Too strong! So, this is Zero Wing?"

"Earlier, even five Faux Saint Devourers working together failed to crack the town's magic barrier. Now that every one of these Devourers has been weakened, these Faux Saint monsters should be impotent against the town's barrier for a short period."

Previously, everyone had already fallen into despair over the Faux Saint army's strength. They never thought that Silverwing Town's defensive magic array would be so powerful that even a Peak Tier 4 attack couldn't even scratch it.

Meanwhile, so long as the town's defensive magic array remained up, the Faux Saint monsters wouldn't be able to touch any of the players inside the town. Moreover, if the defensive magic array could hold out until its energy reserves got replenished, a perfect consumption-replenishment cycle could be formed. At which point, the Faux Saint army would have to give up its siege of the town even if it didn't want to.

"What amazing defensive capabilities! Isn't this defensive magic array already on par with the ones found in Intermediate Cities?"

At this moment, besides the independent players present, even Illusory Words and Unyielding Heart were surprised when they saw the town's defensive magic array remaining intact.

The Soul Annihilation Curse had clearly thinned out the town's ambient Mana by a significant margin already, so the town's defensive magic array should've likewise weakened considerably. Nonetheless, the defensive magic array had actually blocked the combination attack of five Faux Saint Devourers. It was simply unheard-of for a town's defensive magic array to provide such a formidable defense.

Now that Shi Feng had used Miniature World, the Faux Saint Devourers shouldn't even dream of shattering the defensive magic array.

"Presumptuous!" Thousand Eyes frowned slightly when he saw the calm look on Shi Feng's face. "You merely blocked the Faux Saint Devourers' combination attack once. The defensive magic array's energy reserve is limited. I want to see just how long you can continue acting arrogantly before the Faux Saint army's attacks!"

Magic arrays in God's Domain needed energy to operate. Even if an attack couldn't overcome a defensive magic array's defensive threshold, it would still take a toll on the magic array's energy reserve.

With the numbers and strength of the Faux Saint army, shattering the defensive magic array of a Main City ranked NPC city would be possible. Even if the entire army was debuffed by a Domain Skill, it still was more than sufficient to overcome a town's defensive magic array.

As soon as Thousand Eyes finished speaking, the five Faux Saint Devourers launched another combination attack on the defensive barrier. At the same time, tens of thousands of other Faux Saint monsters also started bombarding it.

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

For a time, countless explosions rang out in the space above Silverwing Town.

"This can't go on. We need to stop their attacks. Otherwise, the defensive magic array's energy reserve won't last very long," Unyielding Heart said as he looked at the trembling barrier before him.

Individually, the other Faux Saint monsters might not be a match for the Faux Saint Devourers. However, there were simply too many of them. Even if they were currently weakened, they exhausted the defensive magic array's energy reserve much faster than even the five Faux Saint Devourers had at full power.

"My side can summon two Mythic monsters. We can use them in conjunction with the town's weapons to defend against the assault at the front gate."

"My side can summon two as well. With the strength of four Mythic monsters, we should be able to eliminate the pressure at the front gate. That way, we can send more Tier 3 experts to support the other sides. Then, all we'd need to do is find a way to distract those five Devourers, and we should just barely be able to defend Silverwing Town," Unyielding Heart said after giving the matter some thought.

While Tier 3 players might not be capable of doing anything to the weakened Faux Saint Devourers, stopping the weakened Faux Saint Destroyers shouldn't be a problem. This situation was much better than before, when ordinary Tier 3 players were utterly helpless against the Faux Saint Devourers.

However, just as Unyielding Heart and Illusory Words reached an agreement, a clear and sweet voice suddenly entered their ears.

"No need to waste your Tier 4 Summoning Scrolls. Leave the rest to us."

Upon hearing this voice, Unyielding Heart and Illusory Words turned reflexively to look at its origin, surprise and confusion flashing across their eyes when they saw its owner. This was because the voice's owner was none other than Silverwing Town's manager, Youlan.

Currently, over a hundred Tier 3 experts from Zero Wing stood behind Youlan, every one of them at least Level 115. Many of them were even at the Refinement Realm standard.

“This...”

This scene rendered Unyielding Heart and Illusory Words speechless momentarily. While the 100-plus Tier 3 experts before the two were indeed extraordinary, they were far from enough to resolve Silverwing Town’s plight.

After all, just the Grand Lord ranked Faux Saint Destroyers attacking the town numbered more than 100,000, what more the Great Lord ranked Faux Saint Saboteurs.

Besides, if these Tier 3 experts wished to stop the Faux Saint army’s assault, they would have to do it beyond the town’s walls and defensive magic array. Only Tier 4 summoned creatures could possibly go up against so many monsters simultaneously. Tier 3 experts would simply be charging to their deaths.

However, before Unyielding Heart and Illusory Words could say anything, Youlan suddenly waved her hand forward. Immediately, every one of Zero Wing’s reserve main force members left afterimages as they split up and made their way toward the various sections of the town’s walls. After getting into position, they jumped off the walls without hesitation.

“Have these Zero Wing members lost their minds?”

The independent players fighting above the town’s walls gaped, stupefied, at the actions of Zero Wing’s reserve main force members.

As for the various superpowers' spectating members, they, too, could only gape in shock at this scene.

In their opinions, Shi Feng was already plenty crazy. However, these Zero Wing members seemed to be even crazier.

Even Tier 3 peak experts would not dare charge into a horde of Level 120-plus Great Lord and Grand Lord ranked Faux Saint monsters, yet these Zero Wing members, who were nowhere near the Void Realm standard, had actually done so without hesitation.

What were they playing at?

"Fools that are tired of living!"

Thousand Eyes sneered when he saw Zero Wing's members jumping off the town's walls.

The Faux Saint monsters might've had their Basic Attributes reduced, but their combat standards remained unaffected. Even the weakest Faux Saint Saboteur was not an opponent ordinary Tier 3 experts could hope to match.

He could already foresee the scene of the Faux Saint monsters devouring Zero Wing's members in the blink of an eye.

In front of Silverwing Town's front gate, just as Youlan was about to come into contact with the several Faux Saint Destroyers there, she suddenly took out two Summon Guard Scrolls from her bag and activated them. Two figures then emerged from the two dazzling summoning arrays before Youlan, one of them, an axe-wielding man with a tall and robust body and the other, a blonde woman wielding an aquamarine staff.

The instant these two figures appeared, two frightening auras swept the battlefield. Every player on the battlefield shuddered in response.

In the next moment, the axe-wielding man transformed into a tornado that blocked all the Faux Saint Destroyer attacks aimed at Youlan. In addition, the tornado sent several dozen Faux Saint Destroyers and over a hundred Faux Saint Saboteurs nearby flying over 30 yards away. In the blink of an eye, a clearing appeared before the town's front gate.

As Youlan landed, the blonde woman beside her also happened to complete her Spell. In the next moment, the battlefield shook as a gigantic rift up to 300 yards long opened up on the battlefield. Not only did the rift separate the Faux Saint monsters from Silverwing Town's walls, but it also devoured several thousand Faux Saint monsters, which suffered over -5,000,000 damage each.

All of this happened in just a brief moment.

Chapter 2672 – Just Stay Here Forever!

“This... Aren't they a little too strong?”

“What rank are those two Personal Guards?”

The independent players present gaped in shock when they saw Youlan's two Personal Guards clearing the area before the town's main gate.

Although the Faux Saint monsters had been weakened, ordinary Tier 3 Personal Guards still shouldn't be able to handle them. In fact, even the slightest mistake could result in a Tier 3 Personal Guard getting killed instantly by the numerous Faux Saint Destroyers.

However, with just the help of two Personal Guards, Youlan had easily repelled the 10,000-plus Faux Saint monsters in front of the main gate. This was simply unbelievable.

"Two Dark-Gold Guards?"

When Illusory Words saw the two Personal Guards standing beside Youlan, shock likewise filled her silvery-gray eyes.

The feat Youlan's two Personal Guards had just accomplished would be difficult even for a Tier 4 summoned creature. The only explanation Illusory Words could think of for this situation was that both Personal Guards were at the Dark-Gold rank, as only Dark-Gold Guards had the power to match Tier 4 Mythic monsters.

However, in the current God's Domain, let alone Dark-Gold Guards, even Fine-Gold Guards were exceedingly rare—much rarer than even Level 100-plus Epic Weapons.

Despite being a super-first-rate Guild, Crimson Emperor had only six Fine-Gold Guards. As for Dark-Gold Guards, Crimson Emperor still had not obtained even a single one, yet Youlan actually had two for herself.

What Illusory Words did not know was that only one of Youlan's two Personal Guards was at the Dark-Gold rank; the other was at the Fine-Gold rank. However, the Magic King Craig Midlands's special ability

gave both Personal Guards a significant boost to their combat power. As a result, they currently possessed the strength to match even Mythic monsters.

Nevertheless, Illusory Words and Unyielding Heart did not relax at this unexpected development. In fact, their expressions further tensed up because the Faux Saint monsters that got repelled were charging forward once more. Moreover, they were attacking with even greater ferocity this time.

In the next moment, several hundred Faux Saint Destroyers let loose an angry bellow before grouping up and executing Combination Combat Techniques on Youlan's group. The might of their attacks rivaled a normal attack of a Tier 4 Mythic monster. In the blink of an eye, over 30 such attacks assailed Youlan and her two Personal Guards.

As for the Faux Saint monsters caught inside the rift, they quickly climbed out of it and rejoined the army in attacking Silverwing Town's defensive magic array.

"Sure enough, just two Dark-Gold Guards won't be enough to change anything. The strength of the Faux Saint army simply isn't something current players can hope to resist."

When the various superpowers' members saw this scene, they sighed ruefully.

Dark-Gold Guards were existences that could be obtained only through luck. On a battlefield, a Dark-Gold Guard could exhibit combat power far greater than a Mythic monster of the same level. However, that was only true against players. Against the Faux Saint army, the efforts of even two Dark-Gold Guards were negligible. After all, no matter how powerful a Tier 3 NPC was, they couldn't one-shot Great Lord ranked monsters, much less Grand Lords.

The Faux Saint army could easily pin down Youlan's two Dark-Gold Guards with just several hundred Faux Saint Destroyers. Even if the two Dark-Gold Guards eventually annihilated these several hundred Destroyers, Silverwing Town would've long since fallen by the time they did so.

However, just when the Faux Saint army was about to commence another round of attacks on Silverwing Town's defensive magic array, silver summoning arrays appeared outside the town's walls, one after another, over 300 in all. Figures then emerged from these summoning arrays.

Immediately afterward, fire, ice, lightning, and wind started bombarding the Faux Saint monsters outside the defensive magic array.

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

For a time, a plethora of Elemental Mana inundated the Faux Saint army, and countless Faux Saint monsters screamed in agony, their voices echoing throughout Silverwing Town.

"This... How is this possible?!"

When the various superpowers' members saw the innumerable Faux Saint monsters outside the town getting sent flying one after another, their fists tightened involuntarily as shock filled their eyes.

At this moment, over 300 Personal Guards stood outside Silverwing Town, every one of them exuding a frightening aura. It was obvious that they were not ordinary Personal Guards.

Aside from the various superpowers' members that were spectating the battle through their Magic Mirrors, the independent players standing atop the town's walls were also gaping in shock, their minds frozen with disbelief.

“This isn’t real, right...?”

Unyielding Heart suspected he was dreaming as he watched the 300-plus Personal Guards fighting outside Silverwing Town. As a Vice Guild Leader of Unyielding Soul, he had seen powerful Personal Guards before. However, this was definitely the first time he had seen so many Personal Guards of such high caliber.

Although the majority of these newly appeared Personal Guards were weaker than Youlan’s two Personal Guards, they were still much stronger than ordinary Personal Guards. In fact, even the weakest Personal Guard present made Unyielding Heart feel powerless.

Meanwhile, after Illusory Words saw the 300-plus Personal Guards, she could not help shifting her gaze to Shi Feng, who stood nearby.

Is this the real reason behind his confidence?

Every one of these 300-plus Personal Guards was stronger than a Grand Lord of the same level. At this stage of the game, it was unlikely that even the Five Great Super Guilds possessed such strength.

It was no exaggeration to say that, so long as these 300-plus Personal Guards were present, Silverwing Town would not fall.

While NPCs already possessed Basic Attributes superior to players’, after becoming a Personal Guard, they would gain an additional 10% boost to their Basic Attributes. Combined with the boost from the town’s magic array, these Tier 3 Personal Guards were far stronger than the town’s Tier 3 NPC soldiers. One could even say that Silverwing Town’s defenses were currently stronger than even that of Main City ranked NPC cities.

After all, the NPC soldiers found inside Main City ranked NPC cities were mostly Tier 2 NPCs; only a small number were actually Tier 3 NPCs. The only advantage the NPC soldiers of NPC cities had over Zero Wing's Personal Guards was levels.

Meanwhile, although the Faux Saint army had an overwhelming numerical advantage and even possessed more than 100,000 Grand Lords in its ranks, Silverwing Town's Magic Towers were extraordinary. Now that the Faux Saint monsters couldn't attack the town's defensive magic array effectively due to the interference of Zero Wing's Personal Guards, they were nothing more than live targets for the Magic Towers and various war weapons.

However, while Silverwing Town's players were rejoicing over the strength Zero Wing had just displayed, the three heavily injured Faux Saint Devourers had consumed a few Faux Saint Destroyers and finally recovered their strength. They immediately leaped forward and regrouped with the other five Faux Saint Devourers.

"Good! They've finally recovered!" Thousand Eyes grew ecstatic when he saw this scene.

Previously, Shi Feng had caught them completely off guard and sidelined three Faux Saint Devourers before the fight had even begun. As a result, the Faux Saint Devourers couldn't display their true strength.

Now that all eight Faux Saint Devourers had regrouped, they would finally be able to display their true strength.

In the next moment, the eight Faux Saint Devourers exchanged glances. After apparently coming to a tacit agreement, all eight Devourers hurled their spears at the defensive barrier before them. The eight spears then converged in mid-flight, their combined power so great that it crumbled the space around them and created a black hole, which transformed everything within a 50-yard radius into a field of nothingness. The power of this attack far exceeded that of the combination attack the five Faux Saint Devourers executed before.

“Tier 5?”

Illusory Words felt stifled when she looked at the void field the black hole created.

The phenomenon the Faux Saint Devourers’ combination attack had created was known as Void Collapse, a phenomenon limited to Tier 5 attacks. Despite the debuff from Miniature World, the eight Faux Saint Devourers had actually managed to execute an attack that reached the Tier 5 standard.

An attack of such caliber could give even a Main City ranked defensive magic array a run for its money. An ordinary NPC city’s defensive magic array would evaporate instantly when struck by this attack.

Yet, despite knowing all of this, Illusory Words and Unyielding Soul could only watch as the Faux Saint Devourers’ combination attack approached Silverwing Town’s defensive magic array. After all, Tier 3 players or NPCs could not hope to stop such a powerful attack. The only thing they could do now was pray that Silverwing Town’s defensive magic array could survive this attack.

However, just when the black hole was about to reach the defensive magic array, a man clad in extravagant robes and holding a pitch-black, wooden staff suddenly appeared outside Silverwing Town. The man then casually extended a hand toward the approaching black hole.

A gigantic, aquamarine, threefold magic array promptly formed before this man and stopped the black hole’s advance cold. The man then flicked his extended hand upward, and the threefold magic array deflected the gigantic black hole into the distance. When the black hole touched the ground, it exploded and heavily injured all the Faux Saint monsters within a 50-yard radius. Moreover, these Faux Saint monsters also got trapped inside a void and couldn’t escape from it.

“The attack got blocked?”

Everyone who saw this scene was stunned. Thousand Eyes, in particular, nearly had his eyes fall out of their sockets.

This was a Tier 5 attack!

Yet, it had been deflected so easily.

However, before anyone could snap out of their daze, the robed man suddenly waved his wooden staff.

Dozens of black lightning arcs lashed down from the sky, bombarding the eight Faux Saint Devourers. As if a truck had hit them, all eight Devourers got embedded into the ground. Their HP bars also lost a visible chunk, their life auras weakening considerably.

“This...”

Everyone was at a loss for words when they saw the eight six-meter-deep craters that had suddenly formed on the battlefield.

The strength that was just displayed could no longer be described as powerful. It practically challenged their worldview.

“Damn it! How is that Tier 4 NPC so powerful!?” Thousand Eyes scowled at the robed man hovering in midair.

They had done their research on Craig Midlands, the Tier 4 NPC that protected Silverwing Town. This NPC's presence was the reason why Saint's Hand had not dared to approach Silverwing Town all this time. They had only done so after Shi Feng had riled up the Faux Saint monsters into attacking en masse.

However, Craig Midlands's strength was simply monstrous.

The Magic King was basically casting Tier 4 Curses instantly. To top it all off, he was even double-casting Tier 4 Curses without incantations.

"Commander, we can't go on like this. If we continue fighting, I'm afraid that Tier 4 NPC will soon kill all eight Faux Saint Devourers. At that time, the Guild Leader will definitely fault us," the Level 115, Tier 3 Ranger standing beside Thousand Eyes advised hurriedly when he saw the Faux Saint Devourers becoming heavily injured.

In front of the Magic King Craig Midlands, the eight Faux Saint Devourers couldn't mount the slightest resistance. Their HPs were also rapidly decreasing; it was only a matter of time before their HPs hit zero.

If not for Craig Midlands having his area of activity limited to Silverwing Town, he might even be able to annihilate the entire Faux Saint army single-handedly.

"Relay my command. Have all of the Faux Saint monsters retreat," Thousand Eyes said reluctantly when he saw the Faux Saint Devourers' HPs continuing to plummet and the Faux Saint army barely landing any attacks on Silverwing Town's defensive magic array.

They had lost. Moreover, they had suffered two consecutive losses.

“Understood!” The Tier 3 Ranger nodded before hurriedly relaying Thousand Eyes’s command to the other Saint’s Hand members.

Following which, Saint’s Hand’s members took out a strange crystal from their bags and started chanting an incantation. Immediately afterward, the Faux Saint monsters attacking Silverwing Town fled to the surroundings as if they had just received a summons.

Upon seeing the Faux Saint army retreating, Silverwing Town’s players sighed in relief. Many players even cheered in celebration. After all, since the initial outbreak of the Faux Saint monsters, this was the first time players had achieved a massive victory against them.

However, Shi Feng, who remained standing above the town’s main gate, did not show any excitement on his face. Instead, he shifted his gaze toward a distant forest.

“Leave? Do you really think Silverwing Town is a place where you can come and go as you wish?” Shi Feng said. He then took out a Summon Guard Scroll from his bag and unfurled it. “Since you’ve come here already, then just remain here forever!”

Chapter 2673 – Frightening Tier 4!

As Shi Feng activated his Summon Guard Scroll, the players nearby immediately felt the ambient Mana density rise. They also felt the space around them stabilize, the Mana fluctuations from outside the town no longer reaching them.

Immediately afterward, a middle-aged man clad in luxurious robes and holding a gem-studded staff appeared before Shi Feng.

Although this middle-aged man did not have an imposing aura, when everyone checked his statistics, they were stupefied.

Tier 4!

Another Tier 4 NPC!

“Crap! Just how much strength does Zero Wing have hidden?!”

When the various superpowers’ members saw Versailles, they cursed out loud.

It might’ve been fine if they hadn’t seen the strength of a Tier 4 NPC yet, but after Craig Midlands’s performance, they understood just how frightening Tier 4 NPCs were. There was simply no comparison between them and Tier 3 NPCs. A Tier 4 NPC could truly single-handedly turn the tide of a large-scale war.

Now, it was revealed that Zero Wing possessed two Tier 4 NPCs. Moreover, both were magical-class NPCs.

At this moment, everyone finally understood why Shi Feng had killed Thousand Eyes and his team without hesitation back then.

If their Guilds had two Tier 4 NPCs as well, they most likely wouldn't be afraid of the Faux Saint monsters, either. After all, the gap between Tier 3 and Tier 4 was simply too massive, not one that numbers could make up for.

Meanwhile, Shi Feng's words enraged the Saint's Hand members hiding inside a forest several thousand yards away from Silverwing Town.

"What arrogance!"

"That's right! It's just an additional Tier 4 NPC! Black Flame must be dreaming if he thinks he can kill all of us!"

"Let him remain arrogant for now. Let's see how he continues remaining arrogant after the Faux Saint monsters grow and return after a while!"

They admitted that they were no match for Tier 4 NPCs. However, Shi Feng had to be dreaming if he thought he could kill them all with just two Tier 4 NPCs. Setting aside the several thousand yards separating them and Silverwing Town, just the fact that the Faux Saint army stood between them meant Shi Feng would take ages to reach them.

Expecting to keep them here was simply a fool's dream.

Silverwing Town's players shared the same opinion. They also thought that Shi Feng was boasting. Even though the Faux Saint army couldn't bring down Silverwing Town, it still held the absolute initiative in this war. The Faux Saint army and Saint's Hand's members could stay and leave whenever they wanted. Stopping them with just two Tier 4 NPCs was impossible.

However, before Saint's Hand's members could finish speaking, Versailles waved his staff. Suddenly, the space before him shattered and formed a space-time vortex.

Following which, Shi Feng and Versailles stepped into the space-time vortex and instantly arrived above the forest where Saint's Hand's members were hiding, quietly overlooking these players, who were preparing to retreat.

"Teleportation?! How is this possible?!"

Saint's Hand's members were shocked when they saw Shi Feng and Versailles above them.

"Even this is possible?"

At this moment, aside from Saint's Hand's members, the various superpowers' members hidden in Silverwing Town were stunned, as well.

A special energy enveloped the entire Orc Empire, preventing the use of all forms of teleportation. In fact, one couldn't even summon Flying Mounts in the empire. Players could rely on only carriages and Land Mounts to travel around, which was common knowledge for players operating within the empire.

This was one of the reasons why Saint's Hand's members were not afraid of getting killed. After all, even though Tier 4 NPCs could fly, it would still take them some time to cross a distance of several thousand yards. With the number of Saint's Hand's members present being over a thousand, so long as they split up and fled in different directions, it would be impossible for Versailles and Craig Midlands to kill them all.

Now, however, Shi Feng and Versailles had teleported across a distance of several thousand yards. This was simply unbelievable.

“Evacuate! Everyone, split up and escape!” Thousand Eyes yelled with an indescribably grim expression on his face, reacting immediately to Shi Feng’s arrival.

Currently, the entire area around Silverwing Town was under the Soul Annihilation Curse. Any player that died within this sealed region would be subject to the curse. Naturally, Saint’s Hand’s members were no exception.

In order to ensure the conquest of Silverwing Town, not only did Saint’s Hand sacrifice 1,000 Tier 2, Level 100-plus players and 100 Tier 3 experts, but it had also dispatched over 500 Tier 3 experts and over 1,000 Tier 2 experts capable of absorbing the strength of the Faux Saint Destroyers. If every one of these players got killed now, Saint’s Hand would suffer unimaginable damage.

As soon as Thousand Eyes finished shouting his orders, he took out a Tier 3 Flight Scroll from his bag. This was an item that granted players the ability to fly for a short time. The Movement Speed bonus provided was also much greater than that provided by a Land Mount. This scroll was one of his most important lifesaving items.

As for the other Saint’s Hand members, they promptly snapped out of their daze after hearing Thousand Eyes’s reminder and scattered in all directions, fleeing in a panic.

If they died now, not only would their death penalties be doubled, but their souls would also be weakened for 15 days. Even Tier 3 experts could not afford such a penalty. After all, in the current God’s Domain, one would be eliminated from the frontlines just for stagnating a few days, what more 15 days.

“You still think you can escape even now?” Shi Feng scoffed, his expression remaining indifferent despite seeing Saint’s Hand’s members fleeing in all directions.

As soon as Shi Feng finished speaking, a ripple of Mana spread out from Versailles’s body and instantly enveloped Saint’s Hand’s members, restricting their movements. In the blink of an eye, all the Saint’s Hand members found themselves immobilized.

“This... How is this possible?!”

“What is that NPC?!”

Silverwing Town’s players were stunned as they took in the scene displayed on the gigantic Magic Mirror hovering above the town.

Craig Midlands’s earlier performance had already been plenty astonishing. However, Versailles was actually outperforming him.

Those were over a thousand expert players!

Moreover, many of them were even Tier 3 experts. Nevertheless, Versailles had rendered them immobile with just his Mana Domain.

“Is that really just a Tier 4 NPC?”

Illusory Words’s mind reeled as she looked at Versailles.

The fact that Craig Midlands could heavily injure eight Faux Saint Devourers was already plenty amazing. Now, Versailles was even more terrific. Just by unleashing his Mana Domain, the NPC had subdued over a thousand expert players and gained full control over their lives.

How could this still be considered a fight? This was basically a one-sided massacre.

What Illusory Words and the others did not know was that Versailles wasn't just an ordinary Tier 4 Great Wizard but a Tier 4 Great Wizard who had reached the World Creation realm. He could create his own world within his Mana Domain. Unless one was at the Tier 4 standard, they wouldn't be able to resist his Mana Domain at all.

In the next moment, Versailles swung his staff down at Saint's Hand's members. Immediately afterward, a crimson magic array with a 200-yard radius appeared in midair. It attracted all the fire-type Mana nearby, which coalesced into a fireball.

As the fireball descended toward the ground, it continuously grew until it was the size of a mountain. Saint's Hand's members and Silverwing Town's players all fell silent as they took in the fireball. For a time, it was as if time had frozen for everyone.

"Black...Flame! Just you wait! You cannot stop the Faux Saint army! It is only a matter of time before the Faux Saint army destroys Zero Wing!"

Seeing the descent of the gigantic fireball, Thousand Eyes turned to glare at Shi Feng like a maniac. At the same time, he also kept ridiculing Shi Feng for overestimating himself.

“The Faux Saint army will have to be able to grow first in order to do that!” Shi Feng retorted nonchalantly to Thousand Eyes’s maniacal laughter.

As soon as Shi Feng said so, the gigantic fireball landed and exploded.

Boom!

Endless flames instantly spread across the forest, incinerating every one of Saint’s Hand’s members.

Along with the deaths of Saint’s Hand’s members, the originally retreating Faux Saint army went berserk. With bloodshot eyes, every Faux Saint monster on the battlefield charged at Shi Feng.

“Let’s return,” Shi Feng said to Versailles.

Nodding respectfully in response, Versailles opened another space-time vortex and teleported back to Silverwing Town with Shi Feng.

Only after Shi Feng arrived back at Silverwing Town’s main gate did the players there snap out of their daze. Everyone then turned to stare at Shi Feng in amazement.

“He got the job done, just like that?”

Looking at Shi Feng’s calm demeanor, it looked as if he had just taken a stroll through his backyard.

Those were more than a thousand expert players!

However, Shi Feng had simply trampled over them like they were a bunch of ants. With such strength in his grasp, even if the various superpowers' Tier 3 experts banded together, they would be helpless to do anything against Zero Wing.

Faux Saint army?

It was nothing but a joke!

Meanwhile, after Shi Feng returned to Silverwing Town, aside from the eight heavily injured Faux Saint Devourers that were still desperately trying to escape, the other Faux Saint monsters resumed attacking Silverwing Town like crazy.

However, by this time, everyone understood that Zero Wing would definitely annihilate the Faux Saint army in the end. After all, even if the Faux Saint Devourers could escape the Magic King, they wouldn't be able to escape Versailles. As for the other Faux Saint monsters, they were merely live targets for Silverwing Town's Magic Towers and Zero Wing's Personal Guards.

...

Fire Dragon Empire, Flame Dragon City, Fire Dragon Auction House:

Currently, the upper echelons of nearly 20 superpowers had assembled inside the Fire Dragon Auction House. This was a gathering of unprecedented scale in the entire Fire Dragon Empire.

At this moment, the Tier 3 experts of these superpowers had also surrounded the Auction House, preventing unaffiliated players from entering the building. However, despite being barred entry, a huge crowd of players, including the upper echelons of first-rate Guilds and top adventurer teams, still waited outside the building. Every one of these players was very concerned about the results of the alliance discussion this time.

After all, this alliance discussion could very well change the power structure of the entire eastern continent. If they did not pay attention to the results of this meeting, they might end up getting eliminated from God's Domain without knowing the reason.

Meanwhile, inside the top-floor meeting room of the Fire Dragon Auction House...

Over a hundred Tier 3 peak experts or above were currently seated at a round table. The combined aura these experts released would deter even Domain Realm experts from messing around.

Currently, however, all of these experts were looking at the woman seated at the head of the table with respectful looks on their faces.

White Feather, who stood behind the chairwoman, leaned forward and said quietly, "Vice Guild Leader, the various superpowers' upper echelons are all here."

In response, Cold Shadow nodded and said, "Alright, let's begin."

Chapter 2674 – Relayed Message

As soon as Cold Shadow indicated to start the meeting inside the large and spacious meeting room, White Feather stepped forward and swept her gaze across everyone present.

Although White Feather did not say anything, everyone present promptly quieted down and focused their gazes on her, as they all understood that the alliance discussions were finally going to begin.

“Firstly, let me thank everyone on behalf of Mythology for attending the Faux Saint alliance discussion. Although the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion’s invitees are unable to attend the meeting this time, due to special circumstances, the Pavilion has sent a representative capable of making decisions for the Guild. I believe it will not affect the implementation of the meeting results, so please rest assured, everyone,” White Feather said from beside Cold Shadow.

Upon hearing White Feather’s words, the various superpowers’ upper echelons present reflexively shifted their gazes to the white-clad elderly man representing the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion.

At this point, the sudden disappearance of the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion’s Great Pavilion Master and two Pavilion Masters was already common knowledge among the superpowers. However, everyone had always thought that this was due to an internal dispute between the two Pavilion Masters and that they would definitely show up for today’s meeting.

Yet, to everyone’s surprise, despite today’s meeting being of utmost importance to the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion’s continued existence, be it the Pavilion’s Great Pavilion Master or the two Pavilion Masters, none of them had shown up. Only a few Guild Elders and one Grand Elder represented the Pavilion at today’s meeting. This situation inevitably piqued everyone’s curiosity as to what had actually happened to the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion.

“Since everyone is here, I won’t waste words with you all. Let’s address today’s main topic,” White Feather said as she swept her gaze across the people before her once more. She then clapped her hands twice.

A holographic map of the entire eastern continent appeared in the center of the round table.

Although many areas remained blacked out as unknown territory, the map included every location known by players at this stage of the game. In fact, it even displayed some Level 120 to Level 140 neutral maps—places that most of the superpowers attending this meeting lacked the ability to visit—in great detail.

“What a detailed map!”

For a time, the various representatives present gasped over the contents of the map.

Detailed maps of specific parts of God’s Domain might not be rare in God’s Domain, but compiling all of them into one continental map was not an easy task. This was especially true for Level 100-plus neutral maps and forbidden lands. The various powers considered the information for these maps top-secret and rarely shared it with others.

Now, however, Mythology had actually shared its valuable map information with the superpowers present without hesitation. This was an incredibly generous gesture.

However, after everyone spent some time studying the map, they noticed a few surprising points.

Certain locations on the map were marked in dull-gray and white. These locations were none other than the territories of God's Domain's various NPC dark forces and the recently appeared Faux Saint monsters.

Mythology's intel on the territories of the eastern continent's NPC dark forces mostly matched up with what the other superpowers had, and these NPC dark forces were mainly based in Level 100-plus neutral maps. However, the Faux Saint monsters' territory marked on Mythology's map made everyone present doubt their eyes.

"How did the Faux Saint monsters' territory grow so large?" a gray-clad Assassin wearing Shadowless Empire's Guild Emblem exclaimed.

According to their information, the Faux Saint monsters' territory should encompass only the Purple Thorns Kingdom, Star-Moon Kingdom, and the Orc Empire. However, according to Mythology's map, the Faux Saint monsters were about to extend their reach into the 14 other neighboring kingdoms as well as the Black Dragon Empire and Dark Night Empire already.

This was incredible.

"Is this really the Faux Saint monsters' territory? Is there some kind of mistake?"

Besides Shadowless Empire's Vice Guild Leader, the representatives of the Super Guilds Pride Empire, Sky Dragon House, Sacred Temple, and Nine Heavens Pavilion, as well as the representatives of the other superpowers, were stupefied by Mythology's map.

Although they had long known that the Faux Saint monsters were not easy opponents and would definitely pose a huge problem for the eastern continent, they hadn't anticipated that the monsters' development speed would be so swift.

“Everyone need not doubt the validity of this map. It is the result of exchanging information with multiple Super Guilds. Moreover, this information is just a day old,” Cold Shadow said. “I know many of you present find this hard to believe, but this is reality. This is also one of the reasons why I invited everyone present to today’s meeting.”

The Vice Guild Leaders of the four other Super Guilds present nodded, acknowledging that their respective Guilds had indeed traded information with Mythology.

“A day old? Doesn’t that mean that the Faux Saint monsters’ territory is even larger now?” a Level 116 female Druid from the Moon God’s Realm’s Dark Pursuit asked.

“That’s right. With their development speed, they should’ve come into contact with the borders of these kingdoms and empires already,” Cold Shadow replied, nodding. “I’m afraid it won’t be long before their territory spreads to nearly half of the entire eastern continent. At that time, everyone present will not be able to avoid coming into contact with Faux Saint monsters.”

The representatives that remained relatively relaxed before could not help growing nervous at Cold Shadow’s words. Originally, they had come to this meeting merely to see if there were any benefits to be had. After all, they all believed that this meeting targeted Zero Wing. In their opinions, the matter of forming an alliance to resist the Faux Saint monsters was just an excuse.

“Vice Guild Leader Shadow, since you’ve gathered us here, does that mean you have a plan to prevent this situation from occurring?” the white-clad elder from the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion asked with a grim expression.

The sudden disappearance of the Great Pavilion Master and the two Pavilion Masters had already dealt a significant blow to the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion. Now, there was also the threat of the Faux Saint monsters. This development was simply a nightmare for the Pavilion.

He had seen how the Faux Saint monsters destroyed Star-Moon Kingdom's border cities. Although the Black Dragon Empire was strong, the Faux Saint monsters were growing stronger by the day. After they gobbled up Star-Moon Kingdom, it was only a matter of time before they did the same to the Black Dragon Empire.

Upon hearing the white-clad elder's words, the other representatives present promptly turned to Cold Shadow. They all wished to know the reason why Cold Shadow had gathered them today.

"Of course. Otherwise, I wouldn't have invited everyone to come," Cold Shadow replied, nodding. Her lips curling up, she continued, "I believe everyone already knows by now how powerful the Faux Saint monsters are. It is simply impossible for us to stop these monsters from spreading their influence. Hence, before today's meeting, I formed a partnership with Saint's Hand's Guild Leader."

"A partnership?"

Everyone perked up their ears at Cold Shadow's words.

The Guild known as Saint's Hand was not foreign to those present. They also knew very clearly that Saint's Hand possessed tools that prevented the Faux Saint monsters from attacking players. In fact, the Guild even had a tool that could surely prevent the Faux Saint monsters from attacking Guild Towns and Cities. However, until this day, Saint's Hand had never shown any willingness to partner with other powers. The most it was willing to do was sell some of these tools at exorbitant prices.

"The conditions of the partnership are very simple. All we need to do is collaborate to take down Stone Forest City. At that time, not only will Saint's Hand sell us a stronghold barrier that can prevent the Faux Saint monsters from attacking the towns and cities the barrier is set up in, but everyone present will also get some of Stone Forest City's shares as well as a number of residential slots in the Freedom Hotel," Cold Shadow said, smiling.

When Cold Shadow finished speaking, the eyes of the various representatives present glistened.

Even if Cold Shadow had not mentioned partnering to take down Stone Forest City, they already had plans to do so. After all, Stone Forest City was simply too amazing.

What made Stone Forest City amazing wasn't its location in a Level 100 neutral map but the city's Freedom Hotel.

After experiencing the Freedom Hotel's effects, practically every expert belonging to the various superpowers wished to have their own room there. That way, they would be able to not only accumulate the Double EXP buff rapidly but also expel much more quickly the foreign energies corroding their bodies. Having a room of their own would drastically increase their leveling speed. Moreover, depending on the quality of the room one rented in the Freedom Hotel, one could even train in the Freedom Hotel's excellent environment and achieve extraordinary results.

At this point, the main reason why Stone Forest City was able to continue flourishing in Zero Wing's hands was the Freedom Hotel. Otherwise, the city would've long since fallen due to Starlink and the various superpowers' constant harassment.

If they could secure Stone Forest City for themselves, not only would they have a better assurance against the Faux Saint monsters, but they would even gain residential slots in the Freedom Hotel. This was definitely killing two birds with one stone.

"However, taking Stone Forest City down won't be easy. Aside from the NPC Knight Division, quite a few superpowers have partnered with Zero Wing. Even with an alliance, I'm afraid capturing the city will be difficult."

“That’s right. The Flying Ships are also constantly patrolling around Stone Forest City. If it really comes down to a fight, I’m afraid the number of Tier 3 experts we have is far from enough to capture the city. The Dark World’s failed invasion has thoroughly proven this point.”

“Moreover, I heard that Black Flame has already returned. His personal strength is extraordinary.”

Although many of the representatives present showed interest in Cold Shadow’s plan, some representatives also shook their heads and expressed their worries.

The fact that the various superpowers desired Stone Forest City was old news. However, it was precisely because they were incapable of dealing with Zero Wing’s NPC Knight Division that they had chosen to whittle down Zero Wing’s economy in secret instead of taking direct action.

Although Cold Shadow had brought this matter out into the open, the crux of the problem remained unchanged.

“Black Flame’s return is indeed a problem, but he already has problems protecting himself. I believe you all should know about this. Moreover, aside from us, the Dark World’s various powers will take action as well. After all, their hatred for Zero Wing has never subsided. They merely lack the opportunity to take action.

“When the time comes, the Dark World’s side will attack the Teleportation Gate in full force to lure Zero Wing’s Knight Division away, while our side will attack Stone Forest City. Even if the Knight Division is powerful, it can’t defend two locations simultaneously,” Cold Shadow said. “Moreover, Saint’s Hand will take part in the attack. It will even bring some Faux Saint monsters to help. Those NPC Knights might be powerful when going up against players, but their performance will drop when going up against the Faux Saint monsters.”

At Cold Shadow's mention of the Faux Saint monsters, the various representatives present sucked in a deep breath.

By this time, the strength of the Faux Saint monsters had already been deeply ingrained into their hearts. These monsters simply weren't opponents players could handle. If an army of them attacked, even NPC cities would fall, let alone a measly Guild City.

Moreover, according to the intel they obtained, Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourers had already appeared in the ranks of Faux Saint monsters. Once these Faux Saint Devourers reached a certain number, even Main City ranked NPC cities were likely to fall.

Right then, however, the various representatives present suddenly received message notifications, one after another, the synchrony of these messages making their arrival seem preplanned.

Following which, the originally excited venue suddenly fell deathly silent.

"Feather, what happened?"

When Cold Shadow saw everyone sinking into a daze, she automatically turned to White Feather for the reason for everyone's reactions. Just what kind of information did everyone receive that stunned them so much?

"They lost! The Faux Saint army and Saint's Hand's forces that went to attack Silverwing Town lost!" White Feather exclaimed, her eyes filled with shock and horror as she looked at Cold Shadow. "Moreover, it was a tragic defeat. Every Faux Saint monster and Saint's Hand member that went to Silverwing Town died."

Chapter 2675 – Change in Times on the Eastern Continent

After White Feather finished speaking, the heavy atmosphere inside the meeting room grew even heavier. For a moment, it felt as if time inside the room had stopped as the room became indescribably silent.

“They lost? Moreover, all of them got killed? How is that possible?!”

After snapping out of her shock, Cold Shadow felt that White Feather was kidding her. Either that, or there was a mistake in the information reported.

The Faux Saint army and Saint’s Hand’s failure to destroy Silverwing Town was already plenty unbelievable.

Now, however, she was actually being told that not only did the Faux Saint army and Saint’s Hand suffer defeat, but Zero Wing had even annihilated them. She would rather believe that Zero Wing had instantly destroyed a superpower than this nonsense.

After all, over four million Faux Saint monsters had marched on Silverwing Town. Moreover, the weakest monsters in the army were Great Lord ranked Faux Saint Saboteurs. Even a six-man party led by a Tier 3 expert would need around ten minutes just to kill one of them.

Even if every Faux Saint monster stood still and allowed Silverwing Town’s players to whale away at them, it would take ages for the players to annihilate the Faux Saint monsters.

Meanwhile, it had been, at most, two hours since the Faux Saint army launched its attack on Silverwing Town. How could Zero Wing possibly annihilate the army in such a short time?

Besides, the Grand Lord ranked Faux Saint Destroyers were monsters that would flee from battle once their high HP fell to a certain level. With more than 100,000 Faux Saint Destroyers fleeing in multiple directions, the players in Silverwing Town couldn't hunt down every one of them, even if the number of players was multiplied tenfold.

Nevertheless, White Feather and the various representatives present all revealed a bitter smile filled with self-ridicule upon hearing Cold Shadow's question.

They truly wished that the information their subordinates had just relayed to them was false. However, the report they received contained not just words, but numerous images and videos as well. In fact, the report was so detailed that they could not help but wonder if they were dreaming.

Normally, even when relaying urgent information, their subordinates would send them only a few paragraphs of text. Now, however, their subordinates were behaving like diligent, hot-blooded youths. Just the videos they included in the report numbered over a dozen. There were even narrative texts accompanying each video, as if their subordinates were afraid that they would not understand the events recorded.

In response to Cold Shadow's question, White Feather did not bother wasting words on an explanation. Instead, she forwarded the report her subordinate sent her to Cold Shadow.

When Cold Shadow finished looking through White Feather's report, her entire person fell into a daze, her reaction not much better than White Feather's and the others'.

An impenetrable defensive magic array!

Over 300 Personal Guards capable of overwhelming the Faux Saint monsters!

A Tier 4 NPC guard capable of heavily injuring eight Faux Saint Devourers in a single hit!

A Tier 4 Personal Guard capable of immobilizing and vaporizing over a thousand expert players with just a thought!

Each piece of information was practically more exaggerated and unbelievable than the one before.

If not for Cold Shadow being certain that Saint's Hand aimed to annihilate Zero Wing and knowing that the Faux Saint army marching to Silverwing Town was real, she would've thought that Saint's Hand had joined hands with Zero Wing to toy with her.

...

Meanwhile, aside from the superpowers attending the alliance discussion, the various powers all over the eastern continent were also in an uproar.

"So, this is Zero Wing's true strength?"

"Amazing! It's no wonder Black Flame thought nothing of Thousand Eyes's threat and even killed him directly. With such strength, who could possibly take down Silverwing Town?"

“A Tier 4 Personal Guard? It seems times are going to change on the eastern continent.”

...

The various powers of God’s Domain had never thought that the Faux Saint army would fail to destroy Silverwing Town, much less suffer such an overwhelming defeat. However, rather than the Faux Saint army’s defeat, what truly shocked the various powers was the strength of Tier 4 NPCs, or rather their gross misjudgment of the strength of Tier 4 NPCs.

Previously, although they were in awe of Tier 4 NPCs, it was only at the level of the awe they felt for Mythic monsters.

Nowadays, however, the number of Tier 3 experts in God’s Domain was on a constant uptick. The number of Tier 3 Skills and Spells Tier 3 experts learned had also increased substantially. Tier 3 experts with fully unlocked Mana Bodies were also appearing one after another. Hence, expert players that possessed combat power approaching the Tier 4 standard were no longer as rare as before. In fact, killing Level 100-plus Mythic monsters had already become a normal occurrence for players in the current God’s Domain.

Hence, no one felt much awe toward Tier 4 NPCs anymore. They all thought that Tier 4 NPCs were no longer anything special. At most, they were just slightly stronger than Mythic monsters and could play a relatively significant role only in small-scale battles, and not affect the big picture at all.

However, after watching Craig Midlands’s and Versailles’s performances, the various powers realized that they had been sorely mistaken.

Let alone being capable of affecting the big picture of God's Domain, everything below Tier 4 was basically an ant before Tier 4 NPCs. The number of Tier 3 players or monsters that Tier 4 NPCs had to face did not matter. They could easily annihilate their opponents with a single wave of their hands.

Previously, many of the eastern continent's superpowers had felt gleeful over the fact that they had surpassed Zero Wing in the number of Tier 3 experts they possessed. In fact, their number of Tier 3 experts had grown so large that even Tier 3 Personal Guards would not be capable of stopping them. This was also why many superpowers had started having designs on Zero Wing's Stone Forest City.

However, after Craig Midlands's and Versailles's performances, these superpowers realized that their thoughts were laughable.

Zero Wing's main force had disappeared? Zero Wing was no longer as strong as before? Zero Wing was merely relying on its past prestige to survive? It was only a matter of time before the various superpowers devoured Zero Wing completely? What a bunch of nonsense. Every one of these assumptions was outrageously mistaken.

...

Meanwhile, inside the Dark World, a commotion was also sweeping through the entire Otherworld due to the Faux Saint army's defeat.

"Amazing! After this blow, the powers that are secretly taking action in the Dark World will have to think twice!" Blue Rainbow balled her fists in excitement when she got to the end of her subordinate's report.

Previously, although Dark Rhapsody had managed to develop rapidly due to its partnership with Zero Wing, the pressure the Dark World's various powers placed on Dark Rhapsody had also risen steadily. As a result, safeguarding the Dark World's Teleportation Gate became increasingly difficult.

To make matters worse, World Domination had also pulled off a huge comeback, using some unknown method to raise the levels and strength of its Guild members rapidly. It had also secretly allied with many of the Dark World's powers and incessantly ambushed Dark Rhapsody's members, inflicting significant losses on Dark Rhapsody. As a result, not only did Dark Rhapsody's influence in the Dark World not increase, but it was even decreasing with each passing day.

Recently, the various rumors of Zero Wing's eventual downfall had even swayed the opinions of part of Dark Rhapsody's upper echelon, which, in turn, shattered the Guild's unity. Those senior members all thought that Dark Rhapsody would only be doomed if it continued partnering with Zero Wing and had suggested that the Guild partner with World Domination instead.

However, with the appearance of a Tier 4 Personal Guard in Zero Wing, who would dare continue opposing Dark Rhapsody's partnership with Zero Wing?

...

Meanwhile, during the time Zero Wing's various partners were rejoicing, the war at Silverwing Town had also entered its final phase. With the Faux Saint army annihilated, thousands of Zero Wing members were currently helping the various independent players tally their contribution in the war with excited expressions on their faces.

Although the Faux Saint monsters did not drop any loot, they granted a lot of EXP—easily three or four times more than ordinary monsters of the same rank and level. This was also one of the reasons why many players still chose to operate in the Faux Saint monsters' territory instead of heading for safer locations.

Operating within the Faux Saint monsters' territory might be very dangerous, but with how much EXP these monsters granted, so long as one did not die, one's leveling speed would be at least two times faster than if one grinded elsewhere.

After Silverwing Town successfully annihilated the Faux Saint army without sustaining any casualties, the EXP everyone got was through the roof. The Zero Wing members that had participated in this war had leveled up once on average, with the lower-leveled members even gaining two levels through this war. Their leveling speed was simply unprecedented.

At the same time, Silverwing Town's victory induced the players and adventurer teams operating in the other Guild Towns established within the Orc Empire to make their way to Silverwing Town, all wishing to develop there. In fact, there were many Tier 3 experts seeking to join Zero Wing as well. This situation overjoyed Youlan and Melancholic Smile.

Currently, what Zero Wing lacked the most were Tier 3 experts. Due to Zero Wing's main force members' absence and the fact that most Level 100-plus Dungeons had a Tier 3 requirement for entry, Zero Wing had a very difficult time obtaining the rare materials available only in Level 100-plus Dungeons. The Guild could only purchase and trade for these materials. However, the various powers all considered these materials strategic resources and rarely ever chose to sell them. This, in turn, limited Zero Wing's production of Level 100-plus weapons and equipment.

Meanwhile, as Silverwing Town's players were celebrating their victory, Shi Feng made his way back to Zero Wing's Residence. He planned to log out of the game and get some rest.

Previously, because he had killed another eight Faux Saint Devourers, he had gained another eight Soul Marks. Although none of these Soul Marks contained a Soul Array like before, they had refreshed his brain and triggered extraordinary activity. This definitely wasn't normal for him, as he had been online for over ten days already. He needed to log off to rest and inspect his body.

While waiting for the 30-second log-out process to complete, Shi Feng suddenly received a call request from Youlan.

“Guild Leader, Mythology’s Fang Shihan suddenly visited the main headquarters. Our people couldn’t stop her and her entourage from entering the building at all. They’re currently in the main lobby, and she says she wants to have a discussion with you. She says it is related to Zero Wing’s future. Do you wish to meet her?” Youlan asked anxiously.

“Looking for me?” Shi Feng was a little surprised by Youlan’s words. Smiling, he continued, “This is interesting. Have someone lead them to the top-floor reception room. I’ll head over immediately.”

Chapter 2676 – Potential Elevated?

Zero Wing’s main headquarters, Shi Feng’s room:

Along with the whoosh of high-pressure air escaping, the tightly shut lid of Shi Feng’s gaming cabin opened up. At the same time, the strip of warning lights along the edges of the cabin lit up crimson.

“Sure enough.”

When Shi Feng climbed out of the gaming cabin and saw the cabin’s console interface listing all sorts of warnings, he could not help a sigh of relief.

Although he had anticipated that his abnormal brain activity came at a price of extraordinary energy consumption, he never thought that the consumption rate would increase to such an extent. Before the war with the Faux Saint army began, his cabin’s Nutrient Solution reserve and emergency energy solution reserves had still been at 30% capacity. Now, however, these solution reserves were dry.

In preparation for emergencies, Shi Feng had specifically outfitted his virtual gaming cabin with a special modification. Unlike the standard model, his cabin had an additional compartment that stored 20 bottles of energy solution, the effects of which rivaled those of A-rank Nutrient Fluids. These energy solutions would be used only when the normal Nutrient Solution couldn't sufficiently quickly provide him with the energy his body required.

He had never thought that both his cabin's Nutrient Solution and emergency energy solution would be depleted.

Not dwelling on the matter, Shi Feng promptly made his way to the nearby fridge and consumed a Life Potion, just in case.

During the battle at Silverwing Town, he had relied on Versailles to kill all eight Faux Saint Devourers. When the Soul Marks of all eight Devourers entered him, his mind had entered a transcendent state. For a moment, he even felt omnipotent. It was as if his thought processes had shifted into overdrive.

If other players encountered such a situation, they would definitely consider it a stroke of luck. However, Shi Feng, with over a decade of experience playing God's Domain, understood very clearly the precondition for enjoying this fortuitous opportunity—sufficient nutrients and energy to power his body. If he did not meet this condition, he might even lose his life because of this opportunity.

After consuming the Life Potion, the slight burning and ache in his brain started to ease gradually, the incessant stinging he felt fading. However, as time passed, his recovery rate was also clearly slowing down.

It was obvious that just one Life Potion wouldn't let him recover all of the energy he had exhausted. The Life Potion had resolved only the immediate dangers to his body. Although he currently looked fine, in reality, both his mind and body were still starving.

Sure enough, not having enough S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions is very troublesome. Shi Feng rubbed his temple in frustration.

Although he had resolved his current problems, if he continued developing at this rate, the burden on his body would keep increasing. And to cope with this burden, he would need more S-rank Nutrient Fluids or Life Potions.

Moreover, due to the incident this time, many of Zero Wing's members would most likely require the help of S-rank Nutrient Fluids or even Life Potions to recover, as well. If Zero Wing could not acquire enough of these energy solutions, the Guild would have its development speed restricted and its growth potential reduced.

For the current Zero Wing, Credits were no longer a problem. After all, Zero Wing had partnered with quite a few superpowers. The Guild could exchange Coins or other in-game resources for Credits with these superpowers. This was also the reason why Zero Wing did not face any financial problems now.

However, S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions were a different story. As far as Shi Feng knew, only a limited number of S-rank Nutrient Fluids were sold every year, and the various international corporations monopolized over 80% of these S-rank Nutrient Fluids. Only a small number was actually sold to the public. This was why S-rank Nutrient Fluids sold at astronomical prices and were incredibly difficult to obtain.

Shi Feng did not feel particularly surprised by this situation. After all, the S-rank Nutrient Fluid did not just possess powerful recovery abilities; it could also help maintain a person's youth to a certain extent. Meanwhile, youth was priceless.

As for the Life Potion, it was a new solution the Green God Company recently created. Not only was its value far above that of the S-rank Nutrient Fluid, but it was also much rarer. Despite S-rank Nutrient Fluid being rare, it was still possible for people without connections, like Shi Feng, to obtain some from

time to time. However, the Life Potion was not available to the public at all. Previously, the fact that he was able to obtain some was already plenty fortunate.

During the time Shi Feng was having a headache over the rarity of S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions, a knock came from his door.

“Instructor Shi, they’re in the top-floor reception room already,” Liang Jing said through the door.

“Alright, I’ll head over now,” Shi Feng answered. After tidying himself, he promptly left with Liang Jing and headed to the building’s top-floor reception room.

...

Top-floor reception room:

Currently, a man and two women were present inside the luxurious reception room that overlooked half of Fenglin City. Meanwhile, leading the group was none other than Cold Shadow, a Vice Guild Leader of Mythology. At the same time, she was also one of the outstanding talents among the Fang Family’s younger generation, Fang Shihan.

At this moment, however, Fang Shihan did not seem to be here as a representative of the Fang Family, as the man and woman standing beside her were not members of the Fang Family. Although one would not be able to tell through external appearances alone, the woman standing beside Fang Shihan was the female Guardian Knight White Feather.

While White Feather's appearance in the real world was significantly different from her appearance in God's Domain, the aura she exuded was exactly the same. However, what was most surprising was that White Feather was actually stronger in the real world than in God's Domain. Although she was not a grandmaster martial artist, her aura trumped that of an actual grandmaster. If placed within one of the country's top dojos or training centers, she would definitely be regarded as an absolute prodigy, yet she was actually unknown in the fighting industry for some reason.

As for the man standing beside Fang Shihan, he was none other than Matt, who had previously visited the Heaven's Rumble Training Center with Fang Shihan. Based on his aura, he was much stronger than before.

When Shi Feng entered the room, the gazes of the trio promptly fell on him. Fang Shihan, in particular, looked at Shi Feng as if she was appraising an item rather than a person.

"Miss Fang, long time no see. May I know what business you have with me to seek me out so urgently?" Shi Feng asked, going straight to the point.

Previously, after he had displayed his strength as a grandmaster martial artist and suppressed Matt, both the Fang Family and Mythology had dropped all contact with Zero Wing in the real world. However, he also understood that this period of peace merely meant that his enemies were secretly making preparations for the next attack.

After all, even an expert like Matt was merely an excellent disciple of Mythology, not one of the Guild's bigshots or top-ranking experts. Otherwise, Matt wouldn't have listened to Fang Shihan's orders so obediently.

"Instructor Shi, no, I suppose I should address you as Guild Leader Black Flame. May I know if I am correct?" Fang Shihan asked, a faint smile appearing on her face as she gazed at Shi Feng.

Chapter 2677 – Identity Exposed?

When Fang Shihan finished speaking, a moment of silence enveloped the entire room.

“Black Flame?”

“He’s that Black Flame?”

Standing behind Fang Shihan, Matt and White Feather gaped at Shi Feng in incredulity.

By this time, there was most likely nobody among the superpowers that did not know the name Black Flame. In fact, this name was even feared among them.

After all, Black Flame’s individual strength was simply too astonishing. He had relied on his own strength to develop Zero Wing to its current scale—a feat that had already become a legend on the eastern continent—which made him an existence that countless players looked up to and worshipped.

However, Black Flame’s identity was incredibly mysterious. Even now, nobody knew Black Flame’s true identity in the real world. Many powers and players suspected that Black Flame possessed an incredibly powerful origin and that the power behind him was even more mysterious. Some people even believed that, despite Black Flame’s in-game appearance, his actual age exceeded 35 already. He definitely wasn’t as young as he looked in the game. After all, it was possible for players to adjust their appearances when creating their game characters in God’s Domain. It wasn’t strange for someone to look a decade or two younger.

However, Fang Shihan was saying that Shi Feng—someone who was still in his early twenties—was the legendary Guild Leader of Zero Wing, Black Flame. This was incredible.

Meanwhile, when Liang Jing, beside Shi Feng, heard Fang Shihan's words, she couldn't help tensing up inwardly. Shi Feng's true identity was a core secret of Zero Wing that only the Guild's core upper echelon knew. She was apprised of this secret only because her responsibilities required her to know about it.

Zero Wing was able to develop to its current state due largely to the mystery behind Black Flame's identity. Many superpowers had guessed that Black Flame actually had a powerful backer. Otherwise, he couldn't have become so powerful. However, as the various superpowers were unable to uncover any information regarding Black Flame's real identity, no matter what, they had never dared to take any drastic actions against Zero Wing.

Now that Fang Shihan had discovered Shi Feng's identity as Black Flame, the consequences for Zero Wing would be unimaginable.

However, Liang Jing quickly suppressed the urge to refute Fang Shihan's words. She knew very clearly that if she were to show any signs of panic or rebuttal now, she would only confirm Fang Shihan's deduction. The only thing she could do now was remain silent and let Shi Feng handle the problem.

As Matt and White Feather stared at Shi Feng, Shi Feng sighed.

"That's right. Miss Fang is indeed correct. I am Zero Wing's Guild Leader, Black Flame," Shi Feng said, nodding.

Upon hearing Shi Feng's acknowledgment, both Matt and White Feather goggled involuntarily, immense shock flooding their hearts. They never dreamed that Fang Shihan's deduction was actually correct.

Liang Jing also could not help growing anxious in this situation. She hadn't thought that Shi Feng would come clean without hesitation. This was simply insane.

"You're actually not even going to try to refute me?" Fang Shihan was a little surprised at Shi Feng's response.

In her opinion, Black Flame's identity was pivotal to Zero Wing's development. The situation inside God's Domain aside, just the various superpowers and corporations keeping a close eye on Zero Wing in the real world would be more than enough to land the Guild in serious trouble. After all, with Black Flame's identity exposed, the various superpowers and corporations would no longer fear Zero Wing.

"I doubt it would matter even if I tried to refute you. After all, I suddenly got stuck inside my virtual gaming cabin and lost contact with the outside world for so many days. With you constantly probing the situation inside Zero Wing's main headquarters, it'd be difficult for me to avoid suspicion," Shi Feng said.

Ever since he left the space-time maze, he had a feeling that his identity as Black Flame had already been exposed. After all, many of Zero Wing's matters in the real world required his, or to be precise, "Shi Feng's" approval and input to proceed. Be it in God's Domain or the real world, Zero Wing's management had fallen into a state where it lacked a unified command with both "Shi Feng" and "Black Flame" unavailable. It was very easy for others to suspect his identity in such a situation.

"As expected of Guild Leader Black Flame. You were able to guess immediately why I suspected you to be Black Flame," Fang Shihan said, smiling. "Truthfully, if not for the unexpected incident this time, I would have difficulty confirming you're Black Flame. After all, who would ever think that an unknown young man who just graduated from university recently and never received the standardized training of a superpower is actually an expert ranked within the top 30 of the God's Domain Experts List?"

In God's Domain, any expert capable of ranking within the top 30 of the God's Domain Experts List either came from a superpower or was an expert that had mingled in the virtual gaming world for several decades already. As for the young experts that were currently shining in God's Domain, while their talent was part of the reason why they had managed to achieve their current success, a larger part of the reason was their powerful backers. Otherwise, how would they obtain the large amount of resources and training they needed to grow?

However, what about Shi Feng?

Despite his youth and lack of backing, he had managed to climb his way into the top 30 of the God's Domain Experts List. In fact, he might've entered the top 10 already. Who could possibly believe this?

Matt and White Feather fell into deep thought, pondering this situation.

If not for their great trust in Fang Shihan and their knowledge of Fang Shihan's personality and how she wouldn't do anything that was unlikely to succeed, they wouldn't have dared believe that Shi Feng was actually Black Flame. This was especially true for White Feather, who had personally witnessed Black Flame's strength before.

After watching Black Flame fight, White Feather was certain that he wasn't some virtual gaming greenhorn. The ferocity and decisiveness that he had displayed in his actions, as well as his wealth of combat experience, was something not even she, someone who had been with Mythology for more than a decade, could achieve. However, she was now hearing that an unknown, fresh university graduate was behind the character of Black Flame.

"Miss Fang, you aren't here for only a small matter as verifying my identity, right?" Shi Feng asked calmly as he looked at Fang Shihan, who had a slightly excited expression on her face.

"A small matter? Guild Leader Black Flame, do you know how much trouble Zero Wing will be in if the various powers find out about your identity?" White Feather could not help but remind Shi Feng when

she saw his nonchalant attitude. “Even if Mythology doesn’t do anything, so long as we spread this information, Zero Wing will instantly be devoured by the various powers, leaving nothing!”

If the various powers were to learn of Black Flame’s true identity, they wouldn’t stop at just harassing Zero Wing, yet Shi Feng actually placed no importance on this matter whatsoever.

“Feather, that’s enough. I am indeed here for more than just this matter,” Fang Shihan said as she gestured for White Feather to stand back. She then turned to Shi Feng and continued, “Since you are being so straightforward, I’ll just go straight to the point, Guild Leader Black Flame. By this time, I’m afraid I’m not the only person to have realized your identity. I believe it won’t be long before this piece of information spreads to the various powers, as well. When that happens, I’m sure you know what kind of outcome awaits Zero Wing.”

“What are you trying to say, then?” Shi Feng asked, a smile forming on his face.

“Stone Forest City and the method to grasp the Spiritualization Realm!” Fang Shihan said. “So long as Zero Wing hands these two things over, Zero Wing will be able to avoid all those problems. Moreover, Mythology will also supply Zero Wing with some S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions. I believe these should be things Zero Wing urgently requires right now, correct?”

Chapter 2678 – Upgrading Silverwing Town

Liang Jing’s complexion paled at Fang Shihan’s demand.

Setting aside the method to grasp the Spiritualization Realm, just handing over Stone Forest City would be more than enough to doom the current Zero Wing.

Over half of Zero Wing's current income came from Stone Forest City. Moreover, it was also because of Stone Forest City that so many experts were joining Zero Wing right now. It was no exaggeration to say that Stone Forest City was an integral part of Zero Wing. If they were to lose Stone Forest City, she could not imagine what would become of the Guild.

However, if they refused to hand over Stone Forest City, Zero Wing's situation wouldn't end up any better, either. While Zero Wing might not face any problems in God's Domain, it would be a piece of cake for others to ruin Zero Wing's operations in Fenglin City from the shadows.

"Guild Leader Black Flame, I know this isn't an easy choice to make, but if Zero Wing lacks a sufficient number of S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions, wouldn't it be difficult for the Guild to develop further?" Fang Shihan said, smiling. "I believe you, as a grandmaster martial artist, should know this very clearly."

God's Domain was different from other virtual reality games. The game helped its players develop their minds to extraordinary standards, particularly when players raised their tiers and they received huge boosts to their brain activity. This discovery had spurred excitement in many people. However, in exchange for this boost in brain activity, the energy players needed to sustain their minds and bodies also increased significantly. Besides the current Zero Wing, many superpowers were having headaches over this energy problem.

Meanwhile, as a result of this situation, S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions had become extremely rare on the market. It might have been fine if the volume required wasn't particularly high. It was still possible to purchase some of these energy solutions so long as one was willing to pay more Credits. However, after the required volume reached a certain point, one wouldn't be able to purchase these energy solutions even if one had the money to do so.

“You’re right. S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions are indeed the things Zero Wing currently requires the most. In fact, this problem is even more troublesome than the harassment of outside parties,” Shi Feng said, nodding in agreement.

After Shi Feng became a neutralizing grandmaster, even S-rank Nutrient Fluids were somewhat insufficient to maintain his body and mind at peak condition. Only Life Potions met his needs.

There wouldn’t have been a problem if he was the only person who required these high-quality energy solutions. However, if he wanted the other members of Zero Wing to improve themselves further and have a greater chance of reaching higher tiers, then they definitely could not lack a supply of S-rank Nutrient Fluids.

If Zero Wing could not secure a large supply of S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions within a short period, even if the various superpowers did not secretly harass Zero Wing, it was only a matter of time before they surpassed Zero Wing.

“Guild Leader?” Liang Jing was startled when she heard Shi Feng’s words.

Stone Forest City was currently one of the few Guild Cities established in a Level 100 neutral map. If Shi Feng were really to hand over Stone Forest City, Zero Wing would suffer immense losses in God’s Domain. At that time, the leveling speed of Zero Wing’s Guild members would plummet.

In regard to this situation, both Matt and White Feather smiled.

“At least this kid is mindful of the situation. If he decides to sell Stone Forest City and the secrets of the Spiritualization Realm now, he can earn some money for them. If he waits until the various superpowers know his secret, nobody will want them even if he decides to sell them,” Matt whispered.

A neutralizing grandmaster would indeed be considered an absolute powerhouse in Fenglin City.

However, experts of such caliber were only useful as a deterrent against ordinary powers, not against powerful major corporations. Not to mention, without sufficient S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions, Zero Wing's peak experts would have difficulty further developing themselves. After all, a lot of energy was required to maintain the accelerated brain activity of peak experts—energy that A-rank Nutrient Fluids couldn't provide.

Hence, the various superpowers contested hotly for S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions, driving up the rarity of these solutions.

"If you have already made your decision, we can immediately close a contract, Guild Leader Black Flame," Fang Shihan said, smiling.

"No, a contract won't be necessary," Shi Feng said, shaking his head. "I won't be selling Stone Forest City or the method to grasp the Spiritualization Realm."

Silence momentarily filled the room after Shi Feng spoke. Both Matt and White Feather gazed at Shi Feng in shock, wondering if he had gone crazy. Did he really not grasp the direness of Zero Wing's situation?

"Guild Leader Black Flame, you need to think this through clearly. If you miss out on this opportunity, we won't offer you the same price next time," Fang Shihan said, a little surprised by Shi Feng's response. "By then, the problems Zero Wing will have to face will be far greater than what you can imagine!"

Currently, Mythology could be said to be Zero Wing's only lifeline. This was also the reason behind Fang Shihan's confidence that Shi Feng would not refuse her offer unless he really wished for Zero Wing's

downfall. After all, without sufficient S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions, Zero Wing's future would be bleak.

"Thank you for your concern. If the various superpowers really wish to take covert action, I don't mind teaching them what a one-way trip is," Shi Feng replied calmly.

The current Zero Wing was no longer the same as before. This was especially true after he had become a neutralizing grandmaster. This was also why he did not particularly mind his identity getting exposed. After all, secretly dealing with a neutralizing grandmaster wasn't easy.

"Very well. Since you have already said so, we will take our leave first, Guild Leader Black Flame," Fang Shihan said. After seeing Shi Feng remaining unfazed by her warning, she no longer tried to persuade him. Instead, she stood up and left the reception room.

...

After exiting Zero Wing's main headquarters, Matt looked at Fang Shihan and asked, "Vice Guild Leader, are we really going to leave just like that?"

The old instructor had told them to do their best to get their hands on the method to grasp the Spiritualization Realm. If they just left now, it would be much more difficult for them to obtain this method in the future.

"Relax. Zero Wing won't hold out for long. He might think that he has the power to protect himself after becoming a neutralizing grandmaster, but the superpowers aren't as simple as he thinks they are. He also doesn't know how crazy they are right now," Fang Shihan replied, smiling. "It won't be long before he seeks us out himself. We don't need to rush."

“I guess you’re right.” After giving the matter some thought, Matt nodded in agreement and dropped the subject.

In order to secure the benefits available in God’s Domain, the major corporations backing the various superpowers were going all-out. To make matters worse, the present state of God’s Domain had pushed many superpowers to the brink of destruction. As a result, these superpowers were growing even crazier.

One could easily imagine what those starving superpowers would do with a fat piece of meat like Zero Wing placed before them.

...

After Fang Shihan’s group left, only Shi Feng and Liang Jing remained inside the top-floor reception room.

“Guild Leader, what should we do? Once that Fang Shihan returns, she’ll definitely expose your identity to the various powers,” Liang Jing said as she looked anxiously at Shi Feng.

While Zero Wing had managed to retain Stone Forest City, a big problem now loomed.

“It’s fine even if my identity gets exposed. They can spread it all they want. What we need to do remains the same,” Shi Feng replied calmly.

“What do we need to do?” Liang Jing asked curiously as she took in Shi Feng’s calm expression.

“Earn money!” Shi Feng retorted, chuckling.

Whether it was developing the Guild in God’s Domain or purchasing S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions, these actions required money to accomplish. Without money, nothing would get done.

Currently, it was basically impossible for Zero Wing to obtain additional S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions from its usual sources. Fortunately, he had the invitation to participate in Green God Company’s auction, which was also the only way for the Guild to secure a large volume of these high-quality energy solutions.

However, with how desperate the various superpowers were for S-rank Nutrient Fluids and Life Potions right now, if he did not prepare a sufficiently large sum of Credits, he wouldn’t stand a chance in the auction.

Hence, what he needed to do now was earn money.

“Earn money?” When Liang Jing heard Shi Feng’s answer, she shook her head dejectedly and said, “I’m afraid that will be very difficult right now. Due to the constant suppression of the various superpowers, we have no choice but to obtain resources by ourselves. However, the resources we obtain are barely enough for our own use. We don’t have any surplus to sell. Moreover, Stone Forest City’s player population has also been decreasing because of the harassment. In addition, the Faux Saint monsters have already conquered nearly half of Star-Moon Kingdom. Our Guild’s income is decreasing by the day.”

“Relax. That is in the past,” Shi Feng said, chuckling.

After saying so, Shi Feng had Liang Jing send someone to replenish the Nutrient Solution for his virtual gaming cabin. He then did some simple exercises and had a proper meal before logging back into God's Domain without hesitation.

Once Shi Feng was back in Silverwing Town, he promptly called out the town's interface and chose to upgrade the town.

Shortly after, a system notification sounded in the ears of every player in Silverwing Town as they got teleported out of the town.

Chapter 2679 – Promotion Frenzy

Orc Empire, Silverwing Town:

After Zero Wing's victory over the Faux Saint army, independent players started flocking to Silverwing Town from all over the Orc Empire. The members of many powers also came for a better look at Silverwing Town's situation. As a result, Silverwing Town became incredibly lively for a time.

As players crowded into Silverwing Town, a 20-man team entered the town in an orderly manner. The players who saw this team could not help gaping in shock.

“What?! Even they have come to develop in Silverwing Town!?”

Every member of this 20-man team was a Level 115-plus, Tier 3 expert geared in dazzling equipment. Even the weakest piece of equipment they sported was at Level 110, Fine-Gold rank. The two people walking in the lead were even geared in Level 100-plus Epic Equipment. This was an incredibly rare sight even among the various superpowers' experts.

However, compared to the levels and equipment of these players, what truly surprised everyone was their identities.

This was because this team belonged to Frost Heaven, a superpower originating from the Frozen World, which had unified several of the neighboring kingdoms. Frost Heaven's strength could easily rank within the top 10 up-and-coming superpowers. Due to Frost Heaven's access to the Frozen World's special Bloodline Legacy, many expert players were seeking to join the Guild. Unfortunately, its recruitment conditions were incredibly stringent. As a result, a large majority of the applicants were disqualified.

Now that Frost Heaven's members, who did not operate within the Orc Empire, had come to Silverwing Town, how could everyone not feel surprised?

Although the surrounding players were quietly discussing Frost Heaven's members, the Frost Heaven members in question paid no heed to the players around them, taking their time walking down the main street while observing Silverwing Town.

"So, this is Silverwing Town?" a black-clad, Level 116 female Summoner muttered after inspecting her surroundings. Calmly, she commented, "While the town's defenses are good, it's still considerably inferior to the other allied Guilds' Guild Towns. It is completely reliant on those Personal Guards to stay afloat."

"This town is already quite excellent. At the very least, it has managed to stop the attacks of the Faux Saint army. It is worth recruiting into the alliance," said a female Cursemancer, who was similarly Level 116, bitterly smiling at her companion's words.

The Faux Saint army was something even ordinary NPC cities were incapable of stopping, let alone Guild Towns and Cities. Just the fact that Silverwing Town was able to defeat the Faux Saint army was already an incredible feat. After all, not every Guild Town possessed the Frozen World's special methods.

"While these Personal Guards are indeed strong, those Faux Saint monsters are no pushovers, either. Those monsters have already spread out to over a dozen kingdoms and the Black Dragon Empire. With their growth rate, I'm afraid a large group of Tier 4 Faux Saint Devourers will appear in a few days. At that time, these Personal Guards will most likely have trouble fending off the Faux Saint monsters, much less taking the initiative to hunt down those monsters," the black-clad Summoner said as she shook her head. "Moreover, our purpose in coming here is to observe whether Zero Wing is truly qualified to join us in dealing with the Faux Saint monsters or not. We're not necessarily here to recruit it."

After all was said and done, Personal Guards could only be considered an external tool. The first reason for this was the incredible rarity of powerful Personal Guards. The second reason was the difficulty of resurrecting fallen NPCs.

Currently, Silverwing Town might have a lot of players, but the town's Tier 3 player population was pitifully low.

"I guess you're right. Zero Wing might seem to be flourishing right now, but it is actually in a very precarious situation. The Guild simply doesn't know that Saint's Hand has already partnered with many superpowers. Even if the Faux Saint monsters don't take action against Zero Wing, Saint's Hand can simply supply the various superpowers with the necessary support tools to thrive in the Faux Saint monsters' territory, and in return, the various superpowers will do their best to suppress Zero Wing's members. If Zero Wing does not possess enough players to fight for it, it can only hole up in its Guild Town and rely on the protection of its Personal Guards, unable to do anything more," the black-clad Cursemancer said, nodding in agreement after giving the matter some thought. Just like the Summoner had said, a Guild that could only defend and not retaliate did indeed lack the qualifications to join their alliance and become their partner.

Meanwhile, as the Level 116 Summoner and Level 116 Cursemancer from Frost Heaven were conversing, a system notification suddenly entered their ears.

...

System: Silverwing Town has been promoted to Basic City. You will be teleported out of Silverwing Town in 30 seconds.

...

“What’s going on?”

“The town got promoted?”

The system notification stunned the players in Silverwing Town, their minds falling into a daze for quite some time as they stared at their notification windows. As for Zero Wing’s members, they revealed ecstatic expressions on their faces.

As an Advanced Town, Silverwing Town had already been able to repel the Faux Saint army’s attack effortlessly. Now that Silverwing Town was getting promoted to Basic City, it would pose a much more difficult challenge for the Faux Saint army.

Before anyone could properly react to the situation, every player inside Silverwing Town was teleported out of it. At the same time, a magic array enveloped the town.

“How is this possible?!” the black-clad, female Summoner from Frost Heaven exclaimed as she gazed at the magic array veiling Silverwing Town in astonishment. “Setting aside Silverwing Town’s prosperity, its player population alone is still far short of the requirements of promotion! It should’ve taken the town at least another month to get promoted to Basic City! How could it get promoted so quickly?”

Frost Heaven had ample experience in promoting Guild Towns and Cities. Hence, the team could tell that Silverwing Town’s defenses already met the required standard for promotion, but its player population was still insufficient. This was a condition that could be fulfilled only by gradually accruing popularity among players.

Yet, now, Silverwing Town had actually gotten promoted.

At this moment, aside from Frost Heaven’s members, even the other superpowers’ members secretly operating within Silverwing Town were stupefied by this situation.

A third Guild City!

Some superpowers didn’t even have three Guild Cities, yet not only did Zero Wing possess three Guild Cities now, but all three Guild Cities were actually established in strategic locations. This was especially true for Silverwing Town.

After all, the Faux Saint monsters had already extended their sphere of activity to the dozen or so neighboring kingdoms, as well as the Black Dragon Empire. Due to the arrival of these Faux Saint monsters, many of the local maps had been transformed into high-level maps, with some even becoming Level 120 maps. In addition, since these kingdoms and empires would have to deal with these Faux Saint monsters, plenty of kingdom and empire quests would definitely be issued in the future.

Through these points, one could easily predict that the players of the affected kingdoms and the Black Dragon Empire would be operating in the Faux Saint monsters’ territory in the future.

However, as these maps were originally at the borders of the various countries, there were hardly enough shelters or strongholds for players to rest in nearby.

Since the Orc Empire served as a hub connecting the various countries, the future development of any Guild City there would be terrific.

Meanwhile, shortly after Silverwing Town's players were teleported out of the town, news of the town's promotion spread like wildfire, quickly reaching the ears of the various powers and causing a frenzy.

Chapter 2680 – Silverwing City

Fire Dragon Empire, Flame Dragon City, Scorching Flame Restaurant:

As soon as Cold Shadow logged back into the game, she was greeted by the sight of a tall and beautiful woman standing before her. This woman was none other than White Feather, who had similarly logged back into the game not long ago.

However, White Feather wore an indescribably gloomy expression on her face.

“Did something happen?” Cold Shadow asked, a hint of confusion appearing in her silver eyes.

“We just received news that Zero Wing’s Silverwing Town has been promoted to Basic City. Many of the powers operating around the Orc Empire are now heading toward Silverwing Town. They all plan to establish a long-term partnership with Zero Wing. Some superpowers are also considering doing the same,” White Feather reported in a quiet tone.

“Silverwing Town got promoted into a city?” Cold Shadow was a little surprised when she heard White Feather’s words. Realization then struck her. She smiled and said, “No wonder he rejected my offer without hesitation. It seems this was why he had the confidence to do so.”

“Vice Guild Leader, if Zero Wing really gains the protection of several more superpowers, we will have a much more difficult time obtaining the method to grasp the Spiritualization Realm. Why don’t we contact Saint’s Hand and have it warn off those superpowers?” White Feather suggested worriedly.

Their superiors had given them only one task: to obtain the method to grasp the Spiritualization Realm. Everything else was secondary. If Zero Wing gained the protection of several superpowers in the real world, any superpower that wished to target Zero Wing in secret would have a difficult time doing so.

“That won’t be necessary. So what if those superpowers band together to protect Zero Wing?” Cold Shadow said, smiling as she read the report White Feather forwarded to her. “Now that Black Flame’s identity has been exposed, Starlink won’t let this opportunity get away. Before I logged back into God’s Domain, I received news that the old fellow behind Lu Xingluo has finally lost his patience and is planning to remove all of Zero Wing’s roots in Fenglin City. With Zero Wing’s current manpower, it won’t be able to hold out for long. All we need to do is wait.”

Lu Xingluo himself did not possess any noteworthy skill sets. In fact, a large part of the reason why the Starlink Guild was able to develop to such an extent was the old fellow supporting Lu Xingluo.

Even several superpowers working together wouldn’t be enough to stop that old fellow. Even in Mythology, only a handful of people could go up against him.

“I understand. I’ll have someone keep a close eye on Zero Wing during this period,” White Feather said, nodding.

...

During the time Cold Shadow and White Feather were conversing, Silverwing Town’s promotion had finally completed. When the magic array disappeared, the town that previously sat atop a sand dune was no more. In its place was a magnificent city. Whether in terms of size or defensive standards, the new Silverwing City far surpassed the old Silverwing Town. In fact, even while standing outside the city, one could distinctly feel a dense stream of Mana flowing into the city from the surroundings.

What astonishing Mana! Shi Feng was surprised when he sensed the influx of Mana into the city.

Upon Silverwing Town’s promotion to Silverwing City, its core magic array had received a significant improvement. Due to that, as well as the city’s five Magic Towers, Silverwing City could practically rival Stone Forest City in Mana density.

If players were to rest in Silverwing City, the effects they gained might not be as excellent as what they would enjoy when resting in Stone Forest City’s Freedom Hotel, but the result would still be quite excellent. It definitely wouldn’t be an exaggeration to call Silverwing City a sacred land for players to rest in.

Due to the incursion of the Faux Saint monsters, many maps in the Orc Empire had transformed into Level 100-plus neutral maps. Normally, players would’ve considered this a matter worth celebrating. Unfortunately, not only did these new Level 100-plus neutral maps have very thin Mana, but due to the Orc Empire’s special circumstances, players also could not use Flying Mounts and Return Scrolls there. Moreover, there were still the corrosive foreign energies present in all neutral maps. As a result, most players were leery of operating in these newly created neutral maps.

However, the appearance of Silverwing City in the Orc Empire could resolve many of these problems. At the very least, players would no longer have to travel to a distant NPC city to recover. In fact, players would enjoy a much faster recovery rate when resting in Silverwing City than in NPC cities.

However, what truly excited Shi Feng wasn't the change to the city's Mana density, but to the city's Airport.

Originally, Silverwing Town's Airport was only the size of a sports arena. However, after Silverwing Town's promotion, the Airport received a massive improvement as well. Now, not only had the Airport tripled in size, but the number of Airship platforms it housed had also increased by severalfold.

Now that Silverwing Town has become Silverwing City, I just need to spend some Coins to open up air routes to the various kingdoms' capital cities. Once that's done, players from the various kingdoms can travel directly to Silverwing City. At that time, just the income from collecting transportation fees would most likely rival the Freedom Hotel's income. Shi Feng was filled with excitement and anticipation as he looked at the distant Airport.

In the past, Airports had been one of the main sources of income for Guild Cities. After all, not every player possessed a Flying Mount or a private house in the various Guild Cities. Hence, the Airships became one of the main modes of transportation for a large majority of God's Domain's player base.

Previously, Silverwing Town's Airport was allowed to have only one air route. However, after the town got promoted to Basic City, its Airport could have up to five air routes. This number would also increase as the Airport or city got upgraded.

Before Shi Feng could recover from his joy over the Airport's transformation, the sound of a system notification entered his ears.

...

System: Congratulations! Your Silverwing Town has been promoted into Silverwing City! The Transportation Firm has met the requirements for promotion to Bronze rank. Do you wish to promote the Transportation Firm?

...

It has reached the Bronze rank already? Shi Feng was stunned when he saw the system notification.

The Transportation Firm was a very special construction. Its promotion system was completely different from that of ordinary constructions.

Instead of requiring money or a Promotion Order, one needed to meet a set of conditions to promote the construction.

In the past, powers that owned a Transportation Firm had generally succeeded in upgrading their firm to the Bronze rank only after their Guild Cities reached the Advanced City standard. And as far as Shi Feng knew, even the best-performing powers had managed to meet their Transportation Firm's promotion conditions only after their Guild Cities had reached the Intermediate City standard.

Now, Silverwing Town had just been promoted to Basic City, yet its Transportation Firm already met the conditions for promotion. Naturally, Shi Feng was surprised.

Once a Transportation Firm reached the Bronze rank, it would truly gain the ability to drive a Guild City's economy.

After all, at the Bronze rank, the Transportation Firm would no longer limit its business to the country it was based in. It would expand its operations beyond the borders, becoming a hub that connected the neighboring kingdoms and empires. Even NPCs belonging to neutral powers would start using it as a hub.

In other words, not only would it become possible to find merchandise traded by the various countries' neutral powers in the Transportation Firm, but the Transportation Firm itself could even become a place where NPC merchants would develop their business.

To put it simply, so long as a Guild City possessed a Bronze ranked Transportation Firm, the members of the ruling Guild would gain a significant boost in income. The Guild City in question would also have a much easier time becoming a Main City.

Meanwhile, after glancing at the system notification, Shi Feng chose to upgrade the Transportation Firm without hesitation.