

## Chapter 2691 – Breaking Through the Limit

The gravitational force here is almost the same as what I felt when those Infant Black Dragons appeared. If I continue digging downward, those Dragons will most likely notice my presence. After killing another Outer Path Guardian, Shi Feng poked his head out of the platform he had carved for himself to look at the bottomless abyss.

After nine days of arduous effort, he had finally reached the altitude where he first came into contact with the Infant Black Dragons.

Although the Infant Black Dragons were only Tier 3 Great Lords, they were existences that no individual Tier 3 player could hope to go up against. Not to mention, there were three Infant Black Dragons moving together here.

Currently, the best way for him to complete his Tier 4 Promotion was through killing more Outer Path Guardians and steadily accumulating his Legacy Power to 85% Completion Rate. Then, he could activate his Tier 4 Legacy.

However, as he carved his way down the cliff, the frequency of the Outer Path Guardians' appearance decreased. In fact, the Guardian he had just killed took him nearly an hour to spawn.

At this rate, he would most likely enter the three Infant Black Dragons' perception range by the time he could spawn the next Outer Path Guardian. In that case, he would have to fight the Outer Path Guardian while simultaneously dealing with the three Dragons' attacks.

Sure enough, the Main God System won't let players enjoy such an easy promotion. In the end, I still have to obtain one of those Legacy Fragments. Shi Feng could not help a sigh as he looked at his Legacy Power Points.

With his current standards, so long as he activated a Berserk Skill, swiftly killing an Outer Path Guardian while dealing with the attacks of the three Infant Black Dragons should be possible. However, he was still short of three Guardian kills to reach the minimum 85% Completion Rate.

Even though he had multiple Berserk Skills, the likelihood of him being able to spawn and kill three Outer Path Guardians during the limited duration of his Berserk Skills was extremely low. After all, the last Outer Path Guardian had taken him nearly an hour to spawn. At best, he would be able to kill one Guardian after getting discovered by the Infant Dragons. As for the remaining two Outer Path Guardians, he could forget about them because no matter how he looked at it, coping with the Infant Dragons' attacks for two or three hours while he continued carving the cliff was simply impossible.

This left him with only one option to complete his Promotion Quest: obtaining a Legacy Fragment.

While Legacy Fragments didn't carry equal amounts of Legacy Power, each contained at least ten points to as much as 40 points. With his current Legacy Power Points, he needed only one Legacy Fragment to meet the minimum requirement to activate his Tier 4 Legacy. Visit website our [ReadNovelFull.com](http://ReadNovelFull.com)

Although the Completion Rate of one's Tier 4 Legacy would somewhat influence the success rate of the Tier 4 Promotion Quest, it wasn't absolute.

Legacy Power only allowed players to activate their Tier 4 Legacy. The more Legacy Power players managed to collect, the larger the portion of their Tier 4 Legacy they could activate. However, after activating and unraveling the secrets of their Tier 4 Legacy, players needed to learn the unraveled knowledge in order to complete their Tier 4 Promotion Quest. Clearing this portion of their Promotion Quest depended entirely on their own capabilities. The amount of Legacy Power they accumulated before had no bearing on this part of the quest. And if players failed to learn an adequate amount of knowledge from their Legacy within the stipulated time, they would still fail their Tier 4 Promotion Quest.

In the past, the main reason why most Tier 3 experts failed to reach Tier 4 was precisely this second portion, not the failure to acquire a sufficient amount of Legacy Power.

This was also the reason why the stronger a Legacy was, the more difficult the Tier 4 Promotion Quest would be.

The stronger a Legacy was, the more complex the information contained within it. For example, Legacies belonging to the Giant and Elven race contained incredibly abstruse information. Hence, those playing as Giants and Elves faced much greater difficulty when challenging their Promotion Quests. Even if players geared themselves in powerful weapons and equipment, these items would just allow them to obtain more Legacy Power and open up more knowledge for them to learn. Players still had to rely on their own learning capabilities to complete their Tier 4 Promotion Quest.

Hence, Shi Feng could activate his Legacy at 85% Completion Rate. Reaching 100% wasn't necessary for the completion of his Promotion Quest.

However, trying to reach and obtain the Legacy Fragments below wouldn't be easy. After all, he had to go up against three Infant Black Dragons in the process. There was only so much he could do within the limited duration of his Berserk Skills. The part where he obtained the Legacy Fragments would be especially challenging. If a player that did not know how Legacy Fragments worked were in his shoes right now, they would most likely lose their lives during this process.

Players would not automatically obtain the Legacy Power contained within a Legacy Fragment. Instead, after securing the fragment, they usually spent between 10 to 20 minutes absorbing the Legacy Power. And although players did not need direct contact with a Legacy Fragment to absorb its Legacy Power, if they went too far away from the fragment, the process would get interrupted, and the fragment would shatter. Due to these reasons, players generally needed to complete the process in a safe environment.

With the three Infant Dragons harassing Shi Feng, he obviously wouldn't be able to absorb a Legacy Fragment in safety. He would have to do it while fighting. However, with the Berserk Skills he had, he simply wouldn't be able to last that long.

No, it's not exactly impossible! If I can hold on for some time in my normal state, it might be possible to secure a Legacy Fragment!

After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng decided to take the risk and try to secure a Legacy Fragment. After all, he was no longer the same as when he first entered the Legacy Land. Not only was he able to execute Holy Devour now, but he had even mastered a simplified version of Holy Devour. Although this simplified Holy Devour was not as powerful as the real deal, the raw power it contained was still superior to that of Lightshadow. With this simplified Holy Devour, he might be able to hold his own against the Infant Black Dragons.

After taking a deep breath, he took out the Ring of Gospel from his bag and activated Miniature World and Ring of Brilliance. Now that he had gotten this far in his Promotion Quest and he had to go up against the three Infant Dragons no matter what, he no longer had any reason to hold back his cards.

Upon Ring of Brilliance's activation, the density of the ambient Mana gradually increased. As for Shi Feng himself, his Basic Attributes rose by 5%. Although Ring of Brilliance's effects were significantly weakened, every little improvement counted now.

After activating both of the Ring of Gospel's Skills, he jumped off the platform and allowed gravity to drag him down toward the bottomless abyss.

A few seconds after he started his free fall to the abyss, a series of Dragon roars came from some distance away. As he had predicted, the three Infant Black Dragons flew out of the abyss and charged straight at him once more.

A short moment later, one of the Infant Dragons arrived before Shi Feng and sent its gigantic claw smashing at him. Seemingly unaffected by Miniature World, the Dragon's claw still carried enough power to tear through space.

This hit will determine whether I can succeed or not!

Having prepared for this attack beforehand, Shi Feng promptly lashed out against the approaching claw with the Abyssal Blade.

In the next moment, the blazing-red Abyssal Blade cut at the Infant Dragon's massive claw.

Boom!

When the two attacks collided, a loud metallic clang echoed throughout the abyss, and dazzling sparks illuminated the space around Shi Feng and the Infant Black Dragon. Surprisingly, the Dragon's massive claw actually got knocked off course and smashed into the cliff wall nearby, digging out a huge chunk of the cliff. Shi Feng, on the other hand, came out of the clash completely unscathed. Moreover, the impact accelerated his descent into the abyss even further.

Good! There's a chance! Shi Feng grew ecstatic when the Abyssal Blade deflected the Infant Dragon's claw.

Previously, his greatest worry was that he would not be able to block the Infant Black Dragons' attacks. After all, he did not activate Heavenly Dragon's Power, unlike before. Besides, the Infant Black Dragons had the home-ground advantage, free of the abyss's suppression. Even with the effects of Miniature World, he would most likely have a difficult time deflecting the Infant Dragons' attacks.

Fortunately, the simplified Holy Devour was sufficiently powerful. Now, even without activating a Berserk Skill, he could hold his ground against the Infant Black Dragons. With this, what he needed to do next became a lot simpler.

Following which, Shi Feng continued free-falling while frantically deflecting the three Infant Dragons' attacks.

When he was about to reach the location of the Legacy Fragments, he activated Gale Domain and forcefully changed his angle of descent toward the Legacy Fragments.

After spotting the location of the Legacy Fragments, Shi Feng promptly activated Power of Darkness, increasing all his Basic Attributes by 120%, then executed a two-handed slash at the cliff wall.

Holy Devour!

A raging inferno immediately devoured the cliff wall, creating a hole with a 30-yard radius. At the same time, a fragmented statue the size of a human adult landed inside the hole, radiating a faint glow and a soul-shuddering Divine Might.

...

System: You have discovered a Legacy Fragment. Do you wish to absorb the fragment's Legacy Power?

...

“Absorb!” Shi Feng said without hesitation.

As soon as he finished speaking, the fragmented statue released an aurora of lights that pierced his body.

Crap! Just how much Legacy Power is in this thing?! Shi Feng was stunned when he saw the loading bar that appeared before him.

According to the loading bar, the absorption process would take 33 minutes. This absorption time far exceeded his expectations. It also far exceeded the total duration of all of his Berserk Skills.

However, under the circumstances, he did not have the leeway to go for a different fragment. If he chose to give up on this fragment, then all of the effort he had put into killing all those Outer Path Guardians would go to waste.

At this time, the three Infant Black Dragons noticed what Shi Feng was doing. Immediately, all three of them used Dragon Breath at him.

“Damn it!”

Shi Feng’s complexion darkened when he saw that the three Dragon Breaths covered the entire cave he was in. Instinctively, he activated Absolute Defense to protect himself.

After the three Dragon Breaths landed, the size of the cave increased significantly, which gave Shi Feng a lot more room for maneuvering.

Following which, time flew as Shi Feng desperately defended himself against the three Infant Dragons' attacks.

Ten minutes... Fifteen minutes... Twenty minutes...

Only 30 minutes had elapsed by the time the duration of Shi Feng's final Berserk Skill, Disintegration Power, expired. Although he had done his best to fight in his normal state as much as possible and only use his Berserk Skills when absolutely necessary, he still exhausted all his Berserk Skills by the 30-minute mark.

Without the support of any Berserk Skills, he had no choice but to rely on the simplified Holy Devour to defend against the three Infant Dragons' attacks. However, although the simplified Holy Devour required less Concentration to execute than even Lightshadow, the burden from spamming the technique still took its toll on him. As a result, his complexion grew paler as more time passed.

"Human, your time is up! You're almost out of Stamina and Concentration already, while we are still able to continue fighting! Don't even think of leaving alive after you've trespassed into the territory of Black Dragons!" The leading Infant Black Dragon spoke in an ancient language. Despite Shi Feng having no knowledge of this language, his mind actually understood the Infant Dragon's words.

No sooner had the Infant Black Dragon finished speaking than the two other Infant Dragons increased their attack rate, giving Shi Feng no room to catch a breather.

One second... Two seconds... Three seconds...

As the three Infant Black Dragons' attack rate continuously increased, Shi Feng had no choice but to use his trump cards one after another.

Darkness Domain!

Thunder God's Descent!

Divine Steps!

Void Shield!

However, his complexion paled subsequently with each trump card he expended. His brain was also plagued by a stinging pain that dulled his control over his body.

Is this it for me?

At this moment, Shi Feng could tell that he had already exceeded the limits of his Concentration and that he was losing control over his physical body. Now, he couldn't execute the simplified Holy Devour anymore, completely reliant on dodging the three Infant Dragons' attacks to keep himself alive. Void Shield's duration was also about to run out, and as soon as it did, the three Infant Dragons would instantly kill him.

Just as Void Shield's duration was about to end, however, a system notification sounded in Shi Feng's ears.

...

System: Congratulations! Your Tier 4 Legacy Completion Rate has reached 102%. Do you wish to activate your Tier 4 Legacy?

### **Chapter 2692 – Tier 4 Legacy that Surpasses 100%**

One hundred two percent?

Despite his waning consciousness, when Shi Feng heard the system's mechanical voice, he could not help getting startled.

In his previous life, he had never heard of anyone accumulating their Tier 4 Legacy's Completion Rate beyond 100%. At best, one could raise it to 100% and fully unlock all the information their Tier 4 Legacy offered.

Now, however, his Tier 4 Legacy had reached 102% Completion Rate. Just what did that mean?

Shi Feng did not dwell on the matter. Now that he had met the requirements to activate his Tier 4 Legacy, he activated it without hesitation.

Unfortunately, even after he had chosen to activate his Tier 4 Legacy, the three Infant Black Dragons showed no signs of letting up. In the next moment, one of the Dragons' claws smashed down at Shi Feng.

“Damn it!”

Even if players managed to activate their Tier 4 Legacy, it did not mean that their Promotion Quest was over. Only after learning an adequate amount of the information contained in their Tier 4 Legacy and leaving the Legacy Land safely would players be considered to have completed their Tier 4 Promotion Quest.

Since there was no room for Shi Feng to dodge the approaching claw and he had no Concentration left to execute the simplified Holy Devour, he chose to block the attack with his two swords.

Boom!

Shi Feng’s entire body smashed into the ground with a boom. At the same time, cracks formed on his Void Shield.

Thank goodness I have the Void Shield to absorb the attack’s damage. Otherwise, that move would’ve taken away at least one-fifth of my HP. Shi Feng inwardly celebrated when he saw the cracks on the Void Shield.

With the Infant Black Dragons having the home-ground advantage, even if he had the Heavenly Dragon’s Breath strengthening him and suppressing the Dragons, the disparity in Strength between the two sides was still massive. Only if he activated a Berserk Skill would he stand a chance against the Dragons.

However, as soon as Shi Feng pulled himself out of the ground, another claw attack came at him. To make matters worse, before the claw attack even arrived, Void Shield’s duration ended, and the barrier protecting him shattered into oblivion. The Movement Speed bonus he received from Void Shield also disappeared. As a result, he could rely on only his normal speed to dodge the approaching claw.

“Foolish human! Now that you’ve lost your final card, even though you managed to activate your Legacy, you still won’t leave this place alive!” the leading Infant Dragon said as it looked down at Shi Feng, a hint of ridicule glinting in its golden pupils. It was in no hurry to attack him at all.

Sure enough, it is still too much for me.

Shi Feng did not try to refute the Infant Dragon’s mockery. Instead, he simply looked at the three Infant Dragons quietly.

According to his original plan, after he had activated his Legacy, he would rely on his lifesaving measures to put more distance between himself and the abyss to lessen the abyss’s suppression effect. He would then try to learn his Legacy while escaping. However, he never thought that absorbing the Legacy Fragment would take up so long that, by the time he finished absorbing the fragment’s Legacy Power, he would’ve used up all his Berserk Skills and Lifesaving Skills already. In fact, he had even pushed his Concentration to its very limits. It wouldn’t be strange if he simply collapsed and lost consciousness right now.

Meanwhile, even though he succeeded in activating his Tier 4 Legacy, in his current state, trying to learn his Tier 4 Legacy while going up against the three Infant Black Dragons’ attacks was simply a fantasy.

Although there were differences in complexity between the Tier 4 Legacies found in God’s Domain, normally, the more powerful a Legacy was, the more difficult it would be to learn it. While he did not know how complex the Blade Saint’s Tier 4 Legacy was, it shouldn’t be easy.

Going by his past experiences, players would have only one short hour to learn their Tier 4 Legacy after activating it. So long as they could learn one of the several topics offered, they would acquire their Tier 4 Legacy and complete their Tier 4 Promotion Quest.

In the past, Shi Feng had never once managed to learn a topic from his Tier 4 Legacy within one hour. As for the experts that reached Tier 4, the majority of them had just barely managed to finish learning one topic within one hour. And even the record holder for the fastest person to learn a topic from their Tier 4 Legacy had spent nearly half an hour to do so.

In his current situation, where he had to fight three Infant Black Dragons in a high-gravity environment, just how was he supposed to learn a topic from his Tier 4 Legacy within half an hour?

As Shi Feng was smiling bitterly, the sound of a notification entered his ears.

...

System: You have activated your Tier 4 Legacy. You have unlocked all four learning topics of your Legacy. You have one hour to learn them. So long as you learn just one topic listed below, you will be promoted to Tier 4.

[Formless Blade] (Action-type)

Requires: Sword

Peak Tier 4 Legacy Skill

When activated, attacks any target within a 300-yard radius 13 times. Every attack carries 180% Strength and causes 240% darkness damage.

Cooldown: 15 seconds

Learning condition: Achieve 75% Skill Completion Rate

[Magic Light Assault] (Action-type)

Requires: Sword

Peak Tier 4 Legacy Skill

When activated, user will transform into the image of a sword that attacks a target within a 500-yard radius. When transformed, Movement Speed is increased by 300%; Strength, by 100%; and Agility, by 100%.

Cooldown: 18 seconds

Learning condition: Achieve 78% Skill Completion Rate

[Blade Guard] (Action-type)

Requires: Sword

Apex Tier 4 Legacy Skill

Draw upon the power of a sword to create a formless wall that absorbs 100% physical damage from one attack.

Duration: 3 seconds

Cooldown: 21 seconds

Learning condition: Achieve 80% Skill Completion Rate

[Blade Domain] (Domain-type)

Requires: Sword

Apex Tier 4 Legacy Skill

Inject one's own Mana into a sword to create a Blade Domain that covers a 500-yard radius. While Blade Domain is active, user may control up to seven Magic Swords, each carrying 180% Strength and causing 300% divine damage.

Duration: 5 minutes

Cooldown: 1 hour

Learning condition: Achieve 85% Skill Completion Rate

...

Four Legacy Skills at Peak rank and above? Moreover, there is even the extremely rare Apex Domain Skill. Is this the effect of a 102% Completion Rate? Shi Feng could not help doubting his eyes when he saw the content of the system notifications.

In God's Domain, even for Peak Legacies, one would be fortunate to see even one Peak Legacy Skill during the Tier 4 Promotion Quest. In fact, players that activated their Tier 4 Legacy at 100% Completion Rate would only have a chance to learn two Peak Legacy Skills. As for Apex Legacy Skills, there was only a certain chance for them to appear for Peak Legacy holders. For most players, though, Apex Legacy Skills were akin to myths.

After all, just learning one Peak Tier 4 Legacy Skill would grant Tier 4 players the strength to go up against Superior Mythic ranked monsters of the same level.

Unlike ordinary Tier 3 Skills and Tier 3 Legacy Skills, which relied on Mana for activation, Tier 4 Legacy Skills could also use Legacy Power. By using Legacy Power to activate a Tier 4 Legacy Skill, players could continue infusing Mana into their Skill past the minimum requirement in order to raise the power of their Legacy Skill. And once a Peak Tier 4 Legacy Skill reached its maximum power, a Tier 4 player fully geared in Epic Weapons and Equipment could use it to stand toe-to-toe against Superior Mythic ranked monsters of the same level.

It was also due to the existence of Peak Tier 4 Legacy Skills that many peak experts had chosen not to complete their Tier 4 Promotion Quests despite having the ability to do so.

For the majority of Tier 3 experts, though, just reaching Tier 4 was already a dream, what more trying to learn a Peak Tier 4 Legacy Skill.

Now, however, not only did Shi Feng have two Peak Tier 4 Legacy Skills to choose from, but he even had two Apex Tier 4 Legacy Skills!

However, Shi Feng's expression quickly darkened slightly.

In the past, out of all the Advanced Tier 4 Legacy Skills he was offered during his Promotion Quests, even the most powerful one only required him to execute the Skill at a 70% Completion Rate to learn it. Now, even the easiest Peak Legacy Skill he was offered required him to achieve a 75% Completion Rate, whereas the most difficult, Blade Domain, required an 85% Skill Completion Rate; that was basically asking him to unleash 100% of Blade Domain's power.

Normally, when using Tier 4 Skills and Spells, Tier 4 experts would only be able to achieve a 70% Completion Rate or so. Even Tier 4 peak experts would be able to activate a Tier 4 Skill or Spell at 85% Completion Rate only after long training. After all, the complexity of Tier 4 Skills and Spells was much greater than that of Tier 3 Skills and Spells.

Now, however, he was given only one hour to learn at least one Peak Legacy Skill to such a high standard. This was simply impossible.

During the time Shi Feng was silently cursing the learning requirements, the three Infant Black Dragons hovering in midair swooped down at him.

“Die, human!”

The three Infant Dragons appeared almost simultaneously around Shi Feng and sent their claws smashing at him, their claws forming a perfect encirclement that left no room for evasion.

Screw it! It’s all or nothing!

Since there was no way for him to dodge the incoming claws, Shi Feng gritted his teeth and chose to learn the most difficult of the four Legacy Skills offered.

Blade Domain!

### **Chapter 2693 – Blade Domain’s Might**

Just as the three Dragon claws were about to hit Shi Feng, paragraphs of texts and numerous images suddenly filled his mind. These texts and images were none other than the introduction to Blade Domain.

Right after these texts and images appeared, an invisible ripple from the Abyssal Blade spread up to 500 yards into the surroundings in the blink of an eye.

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

A moment after the ripple appeared, a frightening shockwave rocked the cave Shi Feng stood in. It was so powerful that even a large boulder the size of a human adult went flying out of the cave and plunging into the bottomless abyss.

When the three Infant Black Dragons hovering above Shi Feng saw this, their eyes widened in shock as they stared at the human, who was clearly near death's door.

So, this is an Apex Tier 4 Legacy Domain?

Shi Feng was astonished as he looked at the three massive claws that had stopped just one yard away from him.

Currently, each of the three Dragon claws was blocked by a four-meter-long Magic Sword, unable to proceed even an inch further.

...

System: Blade Domain activated successfully. Skill Completion Rate, 65%. Learning condition not met. You may use Blade Domain again in 30 seconds.

...

Sixty-five percent?! It seems I made the right bet! Shi Feng breathed out a sigh of relief when he saw the system notification.

Truthfully, he was not confident of learning a Tier 4 Skill. After all, he had never learned one before, let alone Peak and Apex Tier 4 Legacy Skills. He had been fortunate to activate the Tier 4 Skill successfully on his first try.

In the past, when he was learning the Advanced Tier 4 Legacy Skills of his class, it took him over 10 minutes just to activate the Skills once successfully. And although he was now a Domain Realm expert, he still was not confident of successfully learning Peak or Apex Tier 4 Legacy Skills within an hour.

Meanwhile, in order to resolve his current predicament, he couldn't rely on a Skill that provided only offensive or defensive capabilities. A Skill that increased his Movement Speed temporarily also wouldn't do him much good. If he wished to survive, his only option was to learn a Domain Skill, which could be used for both offense and defense. Moreover, a Domain Skill was very useful for group combat.

Aside from that, he had taken the initiative to learn Blade Domain, which should've been the most difficult Skill to learn out of the four available options, because he had a big advantage to rely on—his affinity for Mana.

Previously, his affinity for Mana was subpar at best. His control over Mana wasn't particularly good, either. However, after having his soul strengthened by a Soul Array, his affinity for and control over Mana had risen to whole new heights.

Due to this reason, he had chosen to learn Blade Domain.

Given the current circumstances, it would seem that he had made the right decision.

He had not only succeeded in activating Blade Domain on his first attempt but even achieved a 65% Completion Rate. He could also sense that he still had plenty of room for improvement.

According to his past experiences in learning Skills, if he could successfully activate a Skill at 65% Completion Rate on his first try, then he should be able to raise his Skill Completion Rate to 80% or beyond within the next hour.

“Human, don’t celebrate yet. Although a Tier 4 Domain Skill is indeed powerful, without a Tier 4 body, you won’t be able to exhibit its true power at all!” the leading Infant Black Dragon sneered when it saw Shi Feng sighing in relief.

After saying so, the Infant Dragon swept its tail at Shi Feng and shattered the Magic Sword that had managed to stop its claw attack earlier.

When the two other Infant Dragons saw this scene, they promptly copied their leader’s actions, executing a tail swipe. This situation forced Shi Feng to reconstruct the Magic Swords frantically to defend against these tail swipes.

For a time, Magic Swords continuously formed and shattered around Shi Feng. However, as forming Magic Swords required the use of Mana, after 20 seconds of this process, Shi Feng had already lost 10% of his Mana. At this rate, he would run out of Mana in just three more minutes and would no longer be able to sustain Blade Domain.

“Human, die! So long as we are here, you humans will never lay your hands on the Ancient Legacy here!” the leading Infant Black Dragon bellowed as it looked at Shi Feng’s pale complexion.

At this time, controlling his Mana started to feel somewhat taxing.

When trying to mold Mana into a specific form, one would have an easier time doing so with abundant Mana. In other words, as Shi Feng's Mana decreased, the difficulty of molding his Mana into Magic Swords would conversely increase. He estimated that if his Mana were to fall below the 30% threshold, Blade Domain would most likely be unsustainable.

"Die!"

When the Infant Black Dragons saw that Shi Feng had already lost 20% of his Mana, they simultaneously executed a Tier 3 Draconic Skill, Darkness Smash, with their tails. Combined with their Strength, the power this Skill could exhibit easily reached the Intermediate Tier 4 standard. It simply wasn't an attack the Magic Swords could hope to stop.

"Don't even think of killing me so easily!"

After seeing that 30 seconds had gone by already, Shi Feng activated Blade Domain once more.

This time, he was much more careful when activating Blade Domain. He utilized only the minimum amount of Mana to draw the required magic array on the Abyssal Blade.

Boom!

In the next moment, a crater formed in the ground before Shi Feng. At the same time, an astonished look appeared on the Infant Dragons' faces.

Shi Feng had blocked their attacks again!

“How did he improve so quickly?”

When the Infant Black Dragons saw the Magic Swords that had formed before them, they could not help eyeing Shi Feng warily.

...

System: Blade Domain activated successfully. Skill Completion Rate, 75%. Learning condition not met. You may use Blade Domain again in 30 seconds.

...

What the Infant Dragons did not know was that, when they were forcing Shi Feng to create more Magic Swords and deplete his Mana, they had also been helping him familiarize himself with the process of creating Blade Domain’s Magic Swords. As a result, he became increasingly adept at manipulating the Domain Skill’s Mana; hence, he succeeded in activating the Skill a second time with much greater efficiency.

So, that’s the case. The activation of Tier 4 Skills and Spells is no longer dependent on just the technique of players. Instead, it requires the integration of Mana control and technique. It’s no wonder I had such a difficult time learning Tier 4 Legacy Skills in the past. When Shi Feng saw the power of his Blade Domain increase by a significant margin, realization immediately dawned upon him.

After thinking up to this point, he started using even less Mana to conjure the Magic Swords, thereby reducing the volatility of his Mana and improving its finesse.

Following which, time elapsed. Every time Shi Feng activated Blade Domain, he managed to improve its Completion Rate slightly.

77%... 79%... 81%...

As Blade Domain kept strengthening, the three Infant Black Dragons grew increasingly dispirited. Initially, they were overwhelming Shi Feng. Eventually, they ended up fighting on par with him. Now, he actually held the upper hand in battle, relying on six Magic Swords to suppress them and reduce the number of attacks they could execute.

After 50 minutes or so had passed...

...

System: Blade Domain activated successfully. Skill Completion Rate, 85%. Learning condition met. Do you wish to be promoted into a Tier 4 Blade Saint and utilize Blade Domain as the core for your Mana Body?

...

“Promote!”

## Chapter 2694 Sword Emperor at Las

As soon as Shi Feng chose to proceed with his promotion, he felt as if a hidden door in his Mana Body had opened, and beyond the door was a Mana treasury. Not only did the opening of this door increase the total amount of Mana he wielded by a significant margin, but even the excess Mana his body radiated had undergone a qualitative transformation.

If the Mana he radiated before was in a gaseous state, then the Mana he radiated now would be in a liquid state. The density and purity of his Mana were on a completely different level than before.

Moreover, as the dense Mana inside this treasury spread throughout his body, Shi Feng's waning consciousness perked up considerably.

He could conjure up six Magic Swords with little to no effort. And the Mana constituting these Magic Swords was so dense that the swords looked and felt as if they were solid metal.

In the next moment, Shi Feng sent a Magic Sword stabbing at the leading Infant Black Dragon. The sword crossed the distance of 10 yards instantly and caught the Infant Dragon completely off guard. The Magic Sword pierced the Infant Dragon's tough scales and left a deep gash on its body, the injury causing the Infant Dragon to shriek in pain.

As for the two other Infant Dragons, although Shi Feng had also sent Magic Swords stabbing at them, as the two of them were farther away, they were able to react to his attack in time, defending themselves with their claws. Even so, when their claws clashed with the Magic Swords, both Infant Dragons got knocked back by over a dozen yards, the impact causing their claws to tremble. At a glance, it was obvious that the Strengths of the two sides were no longer on the same level.

Is this the true strength of a Tier 4 class?

Shi Feng was surprised and excited when he saw the Magic Swords successfully injuring and repelling the Infant Black Dragons.

...

System: Congratulations! You have become a Tier 4 Blade Saint (Sword Emperor). You have activated the Apex Legacy Core. All Basic Attributes +2,000, all Resistances +150, Mana recovery rate increased by 100%, all Basic Attributes increased by 100%, and physique increased by 150%. All physical and magical attacks below Tier 4 received will be weakened by 30%. Rewarding 100 Legacy Skill Points.

...

Just in terms of Basic Attributes, he had already reached a realm that Tier 3 players could only look at in despair, let alone the boost to his physique. If a Tier 3 player did not possess a set of extraordinary weapons and equipment, they would merely be cannon fodder in front of a Tier 4 player.

Besides, there was the astonishing transformation in the quality of his Mana. He was like an entirely different creature compared to when he was still at Tier 3.

In God's Domain, Mana was the foundation of all life. Without Mana, there would basically be no life. From fighting the Infant Black Dragons, Shi Feng understood just how much a player's Mana would affect the potency of their Skills and Spells.

Now that his Mana was practically liquid, even if he had the same Basic Attributes, combat standards, and physique as a Tier 3 player, the said Tier 3 player still wouldn't last more than a few moves against him. After all, the power of the Skills the two of them wielded would be on completely different levels.

However, even though Shi Feng had successfully repelled the three Infant Black Dragons, he did not dare to idle around. He immediately manipulated his Mana and formed his Mana Domain, then flew up and away from the bottomless abyss. He had no intention of clashing with the three Infant Dragons at all.

Currently, he might've reached Tier 4 already and even gained the strength to hold his own against the three Infant Black Dragons, but that was it. Killing the three Infant Dragons was still impossible for him. After all, now that he had gotten promoted to Tier 4, he could no longer spam Blade Domain like before. Once Blade Domain's duration ended, he would be forced to utilize his own body to clash with the Infant Dragons. With his limited Stamina, he would definitely fall first before he could kill the three Infant Dragons.

Now that he had already achieved his goal, he naturally had no reason to continue fighting the three Infant Black Dragons. The sooner he left this dangerous place, the better.

Fortunately, so long as players reached Tier 4 in God's Domain and managed to form the passive-type Mana Domain, they could fly using their own Mana, no longer reliant on external items to do so.

"Despicable human, don't even think of leaving!"

The three Infant Black Dragons saw through Shi Feng's thoughts. They widened their mouths and blew Dragon Breath at him without hesitation.

In the next moment, the three dark beams the three Infant Dragons released merged into one and rapidly extended toward Shi Feng, the resultant beam turning everything in its path into an empty void. The AOE of the beam made escaping its range in time impossible.

“Come!”

However, despite the combined dark beam’s approach, Shi Feng showed no sign of fear at all. On the contrary, a hint of excitement and anticipation gleamed in his eyes.

He had just been promoted to Sword Emperor and was still unfamiliar with his new strength. When he was controlling Blade Domain’s Magic Swords, he had merely executed the most basic forms of attack using them.

He was extremely eager to see just how strong he was, now that he had risen to Tier 4. Meanwhile, the three Infant Dragons’ combined Dragon Breath was undoubtedly the perfect target for testing his strength.

In the next moment, Shi Feng started executing his Defensive Combat Technique, Sword’s Orbit, using the six Magic Swords he had conjured, creating a defensive sphere that covered a 30-yard radius around him.

Boom!

When the massive beam of light came into contact with the beautiful galaxy of stars around Shi Feng, space around them suddenly transformed into an empty void, as if Armageddon had just arrived. If other players were to see this scene, they would definitely be dumbfounded.

While looking at the empty void that had formed above them, the three Infant Black Dragons revealed a smirk on their faces.

The combination attack they had just executed was far stronger than a single Dragon Breath. It was also the strongest move the three of them possessed. Although Shi Feng had already been promoted to Tier 4, if he received the attack without using an Invulnerability Skill, he would still sustain heavy injuries.

However, when the empty void started recovering to its original state, the smirks on the Infant Dragons' faces disappeared, replaced with a look of shock. After all, at this moment, let alone Shi Feng suffering injuries, even his equipment wasn't scratched. It was as if their combination attack was nothing but a light breeze to him.

Even an Advanced Combat Technique has been strengthened to such an extent? Shi Feng was astonished as he looked at the empty void around him.

Although he had known that Sword's Orbit was up to defending against the three Infant Black Dragons' combined Dragon Breath, as he now possessed much greater Basic Attributes, he never thought that he could stop their attacks so easily.

Earlier, he had clearly used Sword's Orbit just like normal, yet it was as if the technique had transformed into a magic array. The moment he executed Sword's Orbit, the ambient Mana had actually gathered around him and strengthened the power of his technique—to the point where it was equivalent to a Tier 4 Defensive Skill.

Given Sword's Orbit's performance, Shi Feng suddenly felt that, if not for Blade Domain's limited duration, he might really have a chance of killing one of the three Infant Black Dragons.

Meanwhile, seeing that Blade Domain's duration was about to run out, Shi Feng hurriedly controlled his Mana and flew to the space-time vortex in the sky above the bottomless abyss and disappeared from the Legacy Land, leaving behind three dumbfounded Infant Black Dragons.

## Chapter 2695: Sudden Change in God's Domain

### Chapter 2965 – Sudden Change in God's Domain

“Dammit! That heaven-blessed bastard got away!”

“We’re doomed! What should we do? How do we explain this to *that* great personage?”

Anger and panic filled the eyes of the three Infant Black Dragons as they watched Shi Feng leave the bottomless abyss through the space-time vortex. A sense of helplessness also suffused their trembling voices when they spoke.

“Our original plan is already ruined, now that the legacy has been stolen. That great personage will definitely not spare us, once he finds out. At this point, all we can do is scatter and flee. Otherwise, none of us will survive.”

“That’s our only option now. Hopefully, that great personage will focus his anger on that heaven-blessed bastard so that our chances of survival will be a little better.”

After the leading Infant Dragon spoke up, the three quickly reached a consensus. They then flapped their black wings, their hearts brimming with anger at Shi Feng as they fled the bottomless abyss. Simultaneously, they also gloated over the misfortune awaiting him.

...

Meanwhile, on the other side of the space-time vortex, Shi Feng was wholly unaware of the discussion that had just taken place among the Infant Black Dragons. After experiencing a momentary blackout, like before, he found himself back inside the secret room of Zero Wing's Residence in Silverwing City.

"I did it!

"Tier 4! I became a real Tier 4!"

An indescribable sense of joy and excitement welled up within Shi Feng as he observed the Liquid Mana surging toward his body from all around. The dense Mana continuously replenished his body's depleted Mana and mended his haggard spirit.

He had finally accomplished the goal that had eluded him in his previous life.

Moreover, he had even reached Tier 4 with the hidden class Blade Saint. In terms of Basic Attributes and Skills, what the Blade Saint class offered was leaps and bounds stronger than ordinary Tier 4 classes.

Now, he was a true powerhouse in God's Domain, and even the various NPC kingdoms would have to respect him.

As Shi Feng reveled in his success, the system's cold, monotonous voice suddenly entered his ears.

...

System Announcement: God's Domain will undergo a major update. Simultaneously, the new expansion pack "Hero's Return" will be activated. All players will be logged out in 30 minutes. The update's estimated duration is one natural day.

...

The system announcement appeared three times consecutively. Inevitably, everyone in God's Domain was shocked. Shi Feng was no exception.

*A major update?! How is this possible?!*

Shi Feng looked at the system announcement displayed before him in confusion. Even after he reread it several times, incomprehension and doubt still filled his eyes.

There were plenty of system updates in God's Domain. However, even in his previous life, the game had undergone only two major updates throughout his ten years of gaming.

The first major update occurred three years after God's Domain's official launch.

There had already been plenty of Tier 4 players in the game at that time, and Tier 3 players were everywhere. Some players had even started attempting their Tier 5 promotions.

Yet, now, how long had it been since God's Domain launched?

God's Domain's first major update was also the most memorable event for Shi Feng. The update had shaken the entire world, transforming God's Domain into the world's only game and entertainment.

After the first major update, God's Domain had become a completely different world from before, no longer the virtual reality game everyone thought it was. God's Domain had become an existence beyond everyone's imagination.

Players were no longer players but a group of special entities in God's Domain.

Be it God's Domain's NPCs or monsters, both had existed as real people after the update, with their own lives and personalities. They had existed for the sake of survival.

These changes had made God's Domain a completely different world, no longer just a virtual reality game, but an existence that could instead affect the real world.

...

At this moment, Shi Feng wasn't the only person puzzled by the sudden arrival of this major update. Many players and the upper echelons of major powers were similarly surprised and confused by this situation.

“A major update? And it’s even going to take one natural day? What is going on?”

“Crap! I haven’t even reached Tier 3, yet the system’s going through an upgrade?! Is the system trying to take my life?!”

...

For a while, players in God’s Domain voiced their complaints about and exasperation over the sudden system update.

The update duration of one natural day caught everyone off guard, and they didn’t know what to do with this unexpected free time. After all, at this point, God’s Domain had long since become a part of their lives. Logging into God’s Domain every day had already become an instinct.

The previous system updates had lasted only a few to a dozen real-world hours. This 24-hour system update was simply maddening.

Anyone who entered God’s Domain as part of the first batch of players knew that the difficulty of leveling up and killing monsters would increase substantially after a system update. The requirements for players’ techniques would also increase.

Hence, the major update would undoubtedly be a nightmare for players who had yet to reach Tier 3.

The arrival of this update would also bring a massive change for the various powers in God’s Domain. After all, this update would reduce the number of players capable of reaching Tier 3. The difficulty and resources required to nurture their Guilds’ internal experts would also increase. This, in turn, would cripple their current development plans, and they would have to restart their planning from scratch.

However, while some powers felt dissatisfied and angry over this major update, others were overjoyed—especially the new powers and corporations that had joined the game just recently.

The increase in the difficulty of leveling up and obtaining resources would undoubtedly destabilize the status quo in God's Domain. If the newcomers properly grasped this opportunity, they could replace God's Domain's veteran powers.

The atmosphere among God's Domain's various powers became extraordinarily tense. While frantically poaching talents and purchasing resources, many of these powers also drastically reduced the resources for ordinary and low-potential members. In turn, this prompted many Guild players to leave their respective Guilds for greener pastures.

...

While God's Domain's various powers were taking action, Liang Jing hurriedly contacted Shi Feng.

"Guild Leader, all major powers are currently purchasing Coins and resources on a large scale. Shall we start buying as well?" Liang Jing asked anxiously.

"That won't be necessary." Shi Feng couldn't help chuckling when he heard Liang Jing's words. "Haven't those superpowers been constantly preventing us from acquiring funds? We'll now dispose of all the Coins we earned through Silverwing City during this period. Let them buy as much as they want."

"Guild Leader?" Shi Feng's words took Liang Jing aback, her mind unable to comprehend his intentions.

The various powers were currently doing all they could to purchase Coins and resources, yet Shi Feng wanted to sell Zero Wing's Coins in bulk. Once the system update ended, Zero Wing would end up in a pinch.

"Just do it." Shi Feng smiled but didn't offer any additional explanation.

According to past system updates, purchasing Coins and resources in bulk was indeed the correct move. However, the system update this time would be different from previous ones. After the major update, not only would resources not be scarce, but obtaining them would become easier instead. Even leveling up would become less taxing.

However, the major update wasn't all sunshine and rainbows, either.

After the major update, whether external or internal, the requirements for players' promotion would become more stringent. Notably, the changes made toward Mana would require a greater understanding and control of Mana to manipulate it properly. Hence, all peak experts in his previous life had also been Master Magicians.

"Right. Once everyone goes offline, have Melancholic and the others meet me in the conference room. I have something to discuss with them," Shi Feng said.

He hadn't gained only a newfound understanding of Mana during his Tier 4 Promotion Quest but also a strange metal that repelled Mana.

This was his first time seeing such a metal. So long as this item wasn't damaged beyond repair, they could refine it into a weapon or equipment.

The Mana repulsion effect was beneficial to players. After all, Mana was everything in God's Domain. There would be no life without Mana. Naturally, monsters couldn't survive without Mana.

If he could successfully recast the metal, he would have the capital to contend against the various superpowers. Such an item would be helpful when he explored dangerous forbidden lands to acquire resources necessary for conquering the Tier 4 Promotion Quest.

In God's Domain, high-level forbidden lands contained most of the resources capable of helping players reach Tier 4. Although Shi Feng had already reached Tier 4, if he visited these places by himself, the best he could do was survive. He wouldn't be able to conduct a proper exploration of these locations. During his previous life, the various superpowers typically sent teams of Tier 4 players to explore these places. Going alone would be suicide.

"Okay. I'll contact them now." Liang Jing then disconnected the call.

...

Frozen World, Frost Heaven City, Frost Heaven's headquarters:

Due to God's Domain's sudden system update, Frost Heaven had also hurriedly convened a meeting to discuss the changes that would occur to the game. Currently, over a dozen people sat in the magnificent conference room.

Every one of these people was an existence capable of shaking the real world with their every step. At this moment, however, these people had nervous expressions as they looked at the middle-aged man seated at the front of the room.

This middle-aged man looked very amiable. Although he had an unyielding appearance, the aura he gave off felt like a spring breeze. However, none of the people present could relax in his presence.

“That’s it for the meeting,” the middle-aged man said, adjourning the meeting. He then shifted his gaze to Muxin and the petite girl beside her, saying, “Muxin, Kerui, both of you stay behind.”

“Yes, sir!”

As if they had received an amnesty, everyone unrelated promptly rushed off, leaving the middle-aged man, Muxin, and the petite Kerui sitting quietly inside the large conference room.

“Uncle Hong, do you have good news to share?” Muxin asked fawningly as she looked at the stern, middle-aged man.

“Little girl, you’re still pretending? Do you honestly think you can hide the fact that you’ve invited Zero Wing from everyone?” Nonchalantly, the middle-aged man added, “You should know how rare this opportunity is. This will be a gathering of titans. Even those so-called superpowers can only dream of joining. This is also an opportunity for Frost Heaven to become a true titan, yet you invited some unknown outsiders to participate.”

Upon hearing this, Muxin automatically turned to Kerui beside her. In response, Kerui stuck out her tongue playfully and smiled, expressing, “So what if I told on you?”

Muxin sighed and shook her head in helplessness toward this little sister of hers.

“Uncle Hong, while they are indeed outsiders, you shouldn’t underestimate their strength, either. This goes especially for Black Flame,” Muxin said unhurriedly.

“How strong can he be? He’s merely a peerless expert in the eyes of ordinary people.” The middle-aged man referred to as Uncle Hong shook his head. “You should know what kind of people we are dealing with. Those people are the truly talented, possessing frightening potential and special bloodlines. They even have the full support of those major corporations. The peak experts on the Secret Pavilion’s Experts List and the various superpowers’ peerless experts are but the tip of the iceberg.”

“Uncle Hong is right. Being just stronger than average is nothing to those people,” Kerui said as she nodded with a smile.

“However, Black Flame is really strong. He can single-handedly contend against Tier 4 Faux Saint Devourers. Although he can’t be a part of the main force this time, he can still provide support from the sidelines,” Muxin explained.

“He can hold his ground against a Devourer?” Uncle Hong was slightly surprised by this information. “It seems this person is indeed strong.”

“Hmph. What’s so amazing about contending against a Devourer using brute force? Plenty of my subordinates can, too,” Kerui said disapprovingly.

Upon hearing Kerui’s words, Muxin had to resist the urge to pinch the girl’s cheeks. She just explained, “Uncle Hong, that person has a Mana Domain, as well. He will be of significant help with our plans.”

“He has a Mana Domain?” This revelation piqued Uncle Hong’s interest. “This will indeed be of help to us.

“However, I’m afraid these things still aren’t enough. You should know, as well, that an individual’s strength is very limited in this upcoming operation. Moreover, the location we’re visiting this time is extraordinary. So, I will have to personally inspect whether Zero Wing’s members can join this operation.”

“You’ll inspect in person?” Muxin exclaimed in surprise.

Uncle Hong’s identity was preeminent. The Guild Leaders of Super Guilds and even those at the helm of major corporations had to treat him with respect. If he visited Zero Wing’s headquarters and news of it got out, it would cause a sensation among the various major corporations.

“Of course.” In a severe tone, Uncle Hong said, “The operation this time is of utmost importance. We cannot afford carelessness.”

“But the time is almost up. This system update is also going to take one whole day. We’ll be tight for time if we proceed with the inspection,” Muxin objected.

“Don’t worry. We’ll just pay Zero Wing’s headquarters a short visit. It won’t take much time,” Uncle Hong said, smiling.

“Since you’ve made up your mind, leave Zero Wing’s inspection to me, Uncle Hong,” Kerui suddenly suggested. “Zero Wing is a local tyrant. If they join in the operation this time, they will behave arrogantly. Also, seeing how much Big Sis admires that person’s strength, I’m thinking of bringing Tian Cheng of Frost Heaven’s Ten Swords along.

“One, we can test whether Black Flame is as strong as Big Sis says. Two, we can show Zero Wing that not just anybody can join Frost Heaven’s secret operation. Even if Zero Wing passes the inspection, they’ll know how to behave during the operation.”

Muxin fell speechless upon hearing her little sister's words.

The Ten Swords were geniuses the Boulder Corporation had nurtured using all their technology and resources. Every one of them was a monster among monsters. They were also among the core combatants for the upcoming operation.

It would be overkill to test Zero Wing using one of the Ten Swords.

"Muxin, what do you think?" Uncle Hong asked.

"I don't have any objections." Muxin agreed after giving the matter some thought.

In her opinion, Shi Feng shouldn't have any problems going up against Tian Cheng with his strength.

"Good. Then if Zero Wing's strength is no good, you'll have to modify your agreement with them," Uncle Hong said, nodding.

"I understand." Muxin nodded obediently.

Although she was the Boulder Corporation's heir, she couldn't go against her Uncle Hong's decisions.

"Big Sis, I have great expectations for you!"

Kerui revealed a cute smile before logging off.

*Hopefully, his performance won't disappoint Uncle Hong too much,* Muxin prayed inwardly after seeing Kerui leave. She had incurred a considerable expenditure to invite Zero Wing this time. If she annulled their contract, she would have to provide a lot of compensation.

...

Meanwhile, in the top-floor conference room of Zero Wing's headquarters, Shi Feng, who had just logged off, was sorting through the unknown metal's information when he heard a knock on the door. Subsequently, the door to the conference room opened slowly, and a clear and pleasant voice came from outside.

"Guild Leader, they're here."

## Chapter 2696 – Ancient Fragments

Under Liang Jing's lead, Melancholic Smile and several other people entered the luxurious and spacious conference room. Dressed in white lab coats, the group looked very much like a bunch of scientific researchers.

At this time, Melancholic Smile and the others looked much more worn out than before. Exhaustion was apparent on their faces, and their hair was a mess, as if they had just recovered from a serious illness. Shi Feng couldn't help his surprise at this situation.

“What’s the matter with you? Why do you all look so haggard?” Shi Feng asked curiously.

Since Zero Wing was now a large organization, it had plenty of management and production talents. There was no need for Melancholic Smile and the others to handle everything personally.

“Guild Leader, I want to file a complaint!” protested Cream Cocoa, who had a shy personality.

“A complaint?” Shi Feng was taken aback.

Cream Cocoa was a Master Forger of Zero Wing. She also ranked among the top three in forging standards. It was only a matter of time before she became a Grandmaster Forger. Countless people in Zero Wing were hoping to get her to make them a weapon. If these people were to form a line, it would stretch from one end of Fenglin City to the other.

After all, although Cream Cocoa and other Master Forgers had a meager chance of producing Epic Weapons and Equipment, their chances of making Dark-Gold Weapons and Equipment were considerable.

In God’s Domain, Epic Weapons and Equipment were exceedingly rare. Even the core members of first-rate Guilds wouldn’t necessarily own one. Hence, Level 100-plus Dark-Gold Weapons and Equipment could already draw envy from passersby, what more custom-made Dark-Gold Weapons and Equipment.

To put it simply, nobody in God’s Domain would dare bully Cream Cocoa. Anyone who did would be fortunate if Cream Cocoa just outright ignored them.

“Yes! I want to complain, Guild Leader!” Cream Cocoa said resolutely.

“What do you want to complain about?” Shi Feng asked curiously.

“Aqua Rose and Gentle Snow!” Cream Cocoa said with her cheeks puffed out. “They’re too much! Guild Leader, you need to give me justice!”

“They’re bullying you? That can’t be, right?” Shi Feng couldn’t help being surprised once more.

Aqua Rose and Gentle Snow were the Vice Guild Leaders of Zero Wing. They managed the Guild properly, and everyone in the Guild also respected them. He found it hard to imagine the two bullying a cute girl like Cream Cocoa.

“The two Vice Guild Leaders asked us to complete 500 customized Dark-Gold Weapons in five days. They even threatened to cut our research funding if we don’t meet the quota,” Cream Cocoa complained. “Guild Leader, you’re a Master Forger too, so you know how difficult it is to make Level 100-plus Dark-Gold Weapons. Let alone five days, we’ll barely be able to make 500 in ten days.

“The whole forging department has been working overtime, but we are still short 300 weapons after three days. No matter how you look at it, we can’t complete them within the next two days.”

Melancholic Smile and the others nodded in agreement with Cream Cocoa’s words.

Customized Level 100-plus Dark-Gold Weapons were not cabbages. They were delicate works that required all of a forger’s attention; the slightest mistake would lead to failure.

“That many?” The number Cream Cocoa reported shocked Shi Feng.

Five hundred customized Dark-Gold Weapons was a significant number. Moreover, these weapons were Level 100-plus weapons. So many of such weapons could elevate a first-rate Guild’s core team’s overall combat power to a whole new level.

“What weapon did those two ask you to make?” Shi Feng asked.

“It’s this one.”

Cream Cocoa pulled out a tablet from her coat and swiped her finger across the screen, transferring the information on her tablet to the conference table’s holographic projector.

The projection of a black spear appeared above the table. The spear was as tall as an adult human, and engraved on it were intricate magic patterns. The spear looked extraordinary at a glance.

“What a powerful spear.” Surprise filled Shi Feng’s eyes as he read the spear’s detailed information.

...

[Thunder Spear] (Spear, Dark-Gold Consumable)

Level 110

Equipment Requirement: Strength 2,000

Ignore Levels +30

Ignore Defense

Throwing distance increases according to the wielder's Strength with a maximum of 3,000 yards. Causes 1,000% lightning damage to a 20-yard radius upon impact.

...

*How is this even a weapon? It's a long-range missile!*

Unfortunately, the spear was only for one-time use. If it had no limit, raiding Field Bosses would be child's play. Even Tier 2 players could easily challenge Tier 4 Mythic Bosses with such a spear.

If they could mass-produce this spear, siege warfare would become a joke.

However, Shi Feng also had to admit that the Thunder Spear's production was truly challenging. The required materials were secondary, costing only 20 Gold or so in all. The crucial problem was the drawing of the magic patterns. If one weren't at the Master Magician standard, the production success rate would drop dramatically.

“Guild Leader, please talk to the Vice Guild Leaders. Five days is too short. We need ten days, at least,” Cream Cocoa pleaded pitifully.

“I can talk to them about it.” Shi Feng nodded. He felt that Aqua Rose and Gentle Snow were indeed being difficult.

“That’s great! You’re the best, Guild Leader!” Cream Cocoa breathed out a sigh of relief.

However, no sooner had Cream Cocoa finished speaking than Shi Feng did a U-turn, saying, “However, I hope you all can do your best to make 3,000 Thunder Spears during this period.”

“Guild Leader?”

Cream Cocoa couldn’t believe her ears.

“I’m not trying to trouble you.” Slowly, Shi Feng explained, “This item is indeed very important, especially with Zero Wing lacking in high-end combatants. With this trump card, we can teach those hostile superpowers a lesson.”

The various superpowers currently didn’t recognize Zero Wing as a superpower because of the Guild’s lack of high-end combatants. However, a sufficient number of Thunder Spears could compensate for the Guild’s inadequate combat power.

“Of course, I won’t make you work in vain.” Shi Feng chuckled as he looked at Cream Cocoa’s bitter face. He then brought out the unknown metal’s information and said, “So long as you guys can complete this task, I’ll let you research this metal.”

Cream Cocoa immediately criticized Shi Feng's words in her mind, lumping her Guild Leader and Vice Guild Leaders in the same group. He was completely ignoring her wishes and ruthlessly using her as a beast of labor. She couldn't engage at all in the crafting job she liked.

However, after seeing the information displayed above the table, she fell into a daze.

Besides Cream Cocoa, Melancholic Smile and the other Master Forgers present were also stupefied, a passionate flame igniting in their eyes as they stared at the projection above the table.

"It expels all Mana?"

"How is this possible?!"

"There's such a metal in God's Domain?"

Cream Cocoa and the others muttered to themselves as if possessed. The exhaustion on their faces had also vanished completely as countless thoughts flooded their minds, as if the door to a new world had just opened to them.

Shi Feng wasn't surprised by this situation, either.

For those devoted to the forging profession, a material like this only appeared in their dreams. After all, Mana was the foundation of all things in God's Domain. If one could completely expel Mana from an object, one would be unstoppable.

Just the thought of producing a weapon using such a metal excited these Master Forgers greatly.

"Why does this look familiar?" Cream Cocoa mumbled as she read the metal fragments' information.

"Familiar? You've seen them before?" Shi Feng asked with concern.

These metal fragments were so mysterious that even his Omniscient Eyes couldn't glean any information from them. Hence, he planned to give it to the forging department for research.

"Mhm. I think I read about them in an ancient book." Cream Cocoa nodded after giving the matter some thought. "This type of metal existed in ancient times. However, it wasn't something that appeared naturally in God's Domain but was created by Ancient Gods. Moreover, based on the appearance of these metal fragments, they should originally be parts of a whole."

"You're right. These metal fragments indeed look like the fragments of a sword," Shi Feng said, nodding. "Yet, for some reason, they can't be fused like Fragmented Legendary items."

"Although they can't be fused, I have a way to put these fragments together," Cream Cocoa said. "But I'm not certain if this kind of patchwork will allow the weapon to exert its former power and effects."

"You have a way?" Shi Feng was even more surprised to hear this.

These fragments were extraordinary. If they could be repaired to a certain extent and the resulting weapon only had the effect of expelling Mana, it would still be a great weapon.

“There shouldn’t be any problems,” Cream Cocoa said with greater confidence.

“Okay. I’ll leave these metal fragments with you. Just ask Melancholic for the materials you need.” Shi Feng did not doubt Cream Cocoa’s confidence. After all, her talent was no joke. Only the short time she had come into contact with God’s Domain limited her.

“You said it yourself, Guild Leader. You must open all materials in the Guild’s material warehouse to me,” Cream Cocoa said, beaming at Shi Feng.

All Lifestyle players desperately needed precious materials. However, let alone Legendary materials, even Inferior Legendary materials were hard to come by. Not even Super Guilds would give Lifestyle players of her caliber free use of such materials.

Now that Shi Feng gave her carte blanche to use such materials, she naturally couldn’t let this opportunity get away.

“Sure.” Shi Feng nodded. After giving the matter some more thought, though, he added, “However, you still need to use them conservatively. Collecting those materials wasn’t easy.”

“Please rest assured, Guild Leader. I promise you I won’t use them all,” Cream Cocoa promised with a smile, afraid that Shi Feng would take back his approval.

Cream Cocoa behaved like a child who had just gotten a new toy, and Shi Feng didn’t know whether he should cry or laugh as he looked at her. Afterward, he sent all the information relevant to the metal

fragments to Melancholic Smile and the others. As for whether the fragments could be repaired, he would leave that to luck.

“By the way, Guild Leader, the Azure Chamber of Commerce’s members arrived yesterday. They are currently training with our Guild’s core members, and Duan Hanshan is their leader. However, as you have been busy, I didn’t bother you about it,” Liang Jing suddenly said.

“Duan Hanshan came in person?” This piece of news puzzled Shi Feng.

Duan Hanshan was a giant in the Azure Chamber of Commerce. Typically, sending a management staff for a training meeting between Guilds would be more than enough. It was inconceivable that a bigshot like Duan Hanshan came in person.

“Do you want to meet them now?” Liang Jing asked.

“Since Duan Hanshan came here in person, as the Guild Leader, I naturally have to meet him. Make the necessary arrangements,” Shi Feng said.

“I’ll get it done now.” Liang Jing promptly left the conference room.

...

Meanwhile, as Shi Feng discussed the ancient fragments with Cream Cocoa and the others, two men and two women walked toward Zero Wing Tower. And leading this group was an amiable, middle-aged man.

After observing Zero Wing's internal members coming and going from the building for some time, Kerui, the cute girl in a red dress, turned to the peerless beauty beside her. Smiling, she said, "Big Sis, it looks like Zero Wing is only average. Not only are there barely any people here, but most of them haven't even reached the Refinement Realm yet. I can't imagine what powerful experts Zero Wing can offer the operation this time."

Although Zero Wing's headquarters' prosperity wouldn't necessarily have any relation to Zero Wing's strength, it should still reflect some of it.

Muxin remained silent in response to Kerui's comment. While she knew that Zero Wing had just recently emerged, she never thought that the Guild's headquarters would have so few members stationed in it. Moreover, the average strength of these members was appallingly weak. Let alone superpowers, they couldn't even hold a candle to the members found in the various pseudo-superpowers' headquarters.

"Alright, let's go in and have a look."

Uncle Hong frowned slightly. However, he didn't dwell on the matter, entering the lobby of Zero Wing's headquarters together with Muxin and the others.

## **Chapter 2697 – Inspecting Zero Wing**

Zero Wing Tower's lobby:

With a ceiling soaring nine meters high, the lobby looked very much like a small stadium. Aside from the reception for visitors, it also had a cafe and a lounge area, as well as a virtual combat platform for the Guild's internal members to entertain themselves and visitors.

Due to these reasons, quite a lot of people had gathered in the lobby.

When Muxin and her companions entered the lobby, they quickly noticed several hundred people thronged the virtual combat platform. These people were spectating a duel between Zero Wing's internal members, and the scene was very lively.

After seeing Muxin's group entering the lobby, one of the front desk receptionists approached them and asked, "Hello, are you here to look around Zero Wing's headquarters? Or do you have other business to attend to here?"

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"My two nieces are interested in Zero Wing, so I brought them here for a visit today," Uncle Hong explained with a smile.

"Certainly." The receptionist smiled and took out four visitor cards. "You may visit up to the ninth floor with this visitor card. The floors beyond are only for internal members. If you have any questions after your tour, feel free to consult with the front desk."

"Thank you." Uncle Hong nodded and accepted the visitor cards.

Afterward, the receptionist returned to her position at the front desk and allowed Muxin's group to roam about the building freely.

“Zero Wing sure is generous. They’re actually allowing outsiders to tour their headquarters. This will save us a lot of trouble,” Kerui commented in surprise as she received a visitor card from Uncle Hong.

Usually, the various large Guilds would place tight restrictions on their headquarters. Aside from the lobby, they generally wouldn’t allow outsiders to visit other locations.

“They might be trying to lure more people to join Zero Wing,” Muxin said. She more or less understood Zero Wing’s circumstances.

Although Zero Wing was prospering in God’s Domain, it remained an unknown entity in the real world. Despite having gone to great lengths to secure a Guild headquarters, Zero Wing still lacked talents.

Letting visitors tour its headquarters would undoubtedly give players unaware of Zero Wing’s existence a better understanding of the Guild.

“There are quite a few people here, but it’s a pity that there are hardly any experts. Even the two people dueling are only at the Half-step Refinement Realm,” Kerui commented as she looked at the battle taking place at the virtual combat platform. She could tell the two duelists’ combat standards at a glance. “I think we should be more cautious when partnering with such a Guild. Our plan involves a lot of things. If outsiders see that we can’t even find capable helpers, they’ll start looking down on Frost Heaven.”

However, even after Kerui finished speaking, Uncle Hong, Muxin, and Tian Cheng surprisingly remained silent as they stared at a group of young men and women standing among the crowd.

“How unexpected! Zero Wing really cannot be underestimated. They’ve actually kept such talents hidden,” Uncle Hong praised as he looked at the several youths. “Talents?” Kerui stared at those

ordinary-looking youths in confusion. “Young Miss, you shouldn’t underestimate those people. Although their auras aren’t apparent, they are bona fide experts. That blue-haired guy, in particular, has completely restrained his aura. If I hadn’t scrutinized him, I’m afraid I wouldn’t even be aware of his existence,” Tian Cheng, the seemingly vulnerable and honest youth standing beside Kerui, explained quietly. “Honestly, I’m not confident I can win against him.”

“How is that possible?” Tian Cheng’s words stunned Kerui. She suspected that the latter was joking with her.

Tian Cheng was one of the peerless geniuses Frost Heaven cultivated. Not only had he reached the Domain Realm at a young age, but he also had a naturally gifted brain. His processing speed was much faster than ordinary people’s. Even the older-generation Domain Realm experts wouldn’t necessarily be his match.

How could Zero Wing possibly cultivate an expert rivaling Tian Cheng?

“They shouldn’t be Zero Wing members,” Muxin suddenly said.

“They’re not?” Uncle Hong was slightly surprised.

For such youthful experts to appear in Zero Wing’s headquarters, how could they not be Zero Wing members?

“I’ve seen their information before. Although they look somewhat different in God’s Domain, their appearances are roughly the same. That blue-haired youth should be Solitary Frost, the strongest of Azure’s younger generation. I heard even Violet Sword values him greatly,” Muxin explained.

Unlike Uncle Hong, who managed the Guild from behind the scenes, Muxin was responsible for the Guild's intelligence network. Hence, she had a much better understanding of God's Domain's various powers than Uncle Hong-especially when it came to the various superpowers' younger generation. She placed great importance on collecting such information.

"Why would Azure's peerless genius run all the way here?" Kerui grew even more puzzled at this revelation.

The various superpowers treasured their peerless geniuses. They would shower these geniuses with all sorts of precious resources and require them to undergo strict training regimens every day. They wouldn't let these people leave their headquarters at will. Tian Cheng was a similar case. If not to inspect Zero Wing's strength this time, he wouldn't have received permission to leave Frost Heaven's headquarters.

"Zero Wing really is interesting. Not only did Azure's peerless genius come running over, but so did an old fellow from Azure," Uncle Hong said as he gazed at a cool-headed, middle-aged man resting and drinking tea in a corner of the lobby.

"Old fellow?" When Kerui checked the focus of Uncle Hong's attention, her mouth dropped wide open subconsciously.

The man Uncle Hong was looking at was none other than Duan Hanshan, the strongest person of the Duan family's second generation. Duan Hanshan's reputation in the virtual gaming industry was in no way inferior to Uncle Hong's.

Or, to put it in another way, she had grown up listening to the stories of these men.

For such a bigshot to visit Zero Wing's headquarters personally was definitely big news.

At the same time Hong Xinyuan noticed Duan Hanshan, Duan Hanshan also noticed Hong Xinyuan's presence. The two of them then smiled at each other.

"Come. Let's head over," Hong Xinyuan said, smiling.

After saying so, Hong Xinyuan made his way to Duan Hanshan. As for Muxin and the others, they obediently followed him while bating their breaths.

"Old Hong, what brings you here?" Duan Hanshan greeted Hong Xinyuan with a smile.

"My two nieces are interested in Zero Wing, so I came to look around," Hong Xinyuan replied perfunctorily. "However, I'm curious as to why the western continent's Ice Demon is here. There still shouldn't be much interaction between the eastern and western continents." The Azure Chamber of Commerce mainly operated on the western continent, and the businesses it had on the eastern continent were very few. No matter how he thought about it, there shouldn't be much contact between Azure and Zero Wing.

Narrowing his eyes, Duan Hanshan refused to believe a single word from Hong Xinyuan's mouth. He then stroked his beard and said flatly, "It's nothing. I just brought some of Azure's newcomers for a training meeting with Zero Wing." "You guys are here for training?"

Hong Xinyuan reflexively arched a brow at Duan Hanshan, doubt coloring his face.

Let alone Hong Xinyuan, even Kerui thought Duan Hanshan was messing with them. Although she was a newcomer who had just entered the virtual gaming industry recently, she knew that the Azure Chamber of Commerce possessed an extraordinary foundation. It stood high above ordinary superpowers.

In comparison, Zero Wing was a new Guild that had just emerged along with God's Domain. Who would believe that Azure would send its top talents to receive training from Zero Wing?

"What? Don't believe me?" Duan Hanshan chuckled.

"If we were in a Super Guild's headquarters, I would definitely believe you, but Zero Wing?" Hong Xinyuan chuckled and shook his head.

Some Guild operations indeed had to be kept confidential and could not be disclosed to outsiders. However, in Hong Xinyuan's opinion, Duan Hanshan's excuse was simply too poor. Saying that Azure's top talents had come to teach Zero Wing's newcomers would be more believable.

"I knew you wouldn't believe me." Duan Hanshan's smile grew even brighter when he heard Hong Xinyuan's reply. He then pointed at the nearby virtual combat platform and said, "We're going to have a coaching battle with Zero Wing in a moment. Since you don't believe me, how about we make a bet?"

"Bet? How are we betting?" Hong Xinyuan asked out of curiosity.

"Didn't you bring a newcomer too?" Duan Hanshan glanced at Tian Cheng. Calmly, he said, "I can see he's quite good. How about you have him replace one of my newcomers? However, this is a precious spot, so I can't just let your newcomer join for free. I'll have to collect five bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluid as a deposit."

Hong Xinyuan nearly choked at Duan Hanshan's proposal. Not only was Duan Hanshan asking his side to contribute manpower, but he was even asking for five bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluid. Duan Hanshan was too shameless!

"Don't be in a hurry to reject me." Upon seeing Hong Xinyuan's dark face, Duan Hanshan added, "If you win this bet, I'll pay you back double."

"It seems you're quite optimistic of Zero Wing's members." Hong Xinyuan was somewhat surprised.

Ten bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluid were enough to supply a top talent for half a year—a significant amount to any superpower. "Sort of." Duan Hanshan nodded. "However, if you lose, you'll have to compensate me with an additional ten bottles."

"..." Hong Xinyuan was momentarily at a loss for words.

Why did Duan Hanshan make it sound as if they would lose no matter what?

When had Frost Heaven's reputation fallen to such a degree?

"How about it? Wanna bet?" Duan Hanshan asked hastily when Hong Xinyuan remained silent for some time.

However, Hong Xinyuan wasn't a young and arrogant rookie. He didn't pay any attention to Duan Hanshan's goading at all. Instead, he turned to look at the honest-looking Tian

Cheng.

“Tian Cheng, what do you think?” Hong Xinyuan asked.

### **Chapter 2698 – Zero Wing’s Hidden Strength?**

Upon hearing Hong Xinyuan’s question, Kerui hurriedly signaled Tian Cheng to agree. After all, this was an excellent opportunity to disrupt Muxin’s plan.

Tian Cheng was the fifth strongest person among Frost Heaven’s Ten Swords. Out of everyone in Zero Wing, only Black Flame could possibly contend against him.

However, Tian Cheng surprisingly did not answer right away.

“Uncle Hong, may I use my full strength in the match?” Tian Cheng asked.

The Ten Swords were different from Frost Heaven’s ordinary members. It was imperative that they conceal their strength from outsiders. Unless they received explicit orders from the upper echelon, they couldn’t show their full power even if it meant suffering defeat.

Tian Cheng’s question didn’t surprise Duan Hanshan. After all, this was also the case with the Azure Chamber of Commerce. Only during the annual competition before did Solitary Frost and the others have their restrictions lifted.

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“You can use your full strength when necessary,” Hong Xinyuan said after giving the matter some thought.

Zero Wing’s Black Flame possessed the strength to contend against the Mythic ranked Faux Saint Devourers. If Black Flame stepped forward as Zero Wing’s representative, Tian Cheng would undoubtedly lose if he held back his strength.

Such an outcome wasn’t what Hong Xinyuan wished to see. After all, his goal here today was to establish Frost Heaven’s prestige.

“I don’t have any problems, then.” Fighting spirit flared in Tian Cheng’s eyes.

“Good. I’ll leave it to you, then.” Hong Xinyuan nodded in satisfaction. He then turned to Duan Hanshan and said, “Old Ice Demon, we have a deal.”

Initially, Hong Xinyuan had been considering how to go about making Zero Wing aware of Frost Heaven’s might after doing a brief inspection of Zero Wing’s headquarters. Now, it would seem he could save his efforts.

“That’s settled.” Duan Hanshan chuckled. He then turned to the blue-haired youth nearby and said, “Gu Han[1], step down for now. Let this kid take your place.”

“Him?” After scanning the honest-looking youth standing beside Duan Hanshan, Gu Han asked reluctantly, “Are you sure?”

Immediately, both Tian Cheng and Hong Xinyuan had the urge to puke blood.

Just how much were others underestimating Frost Heaven nowadays?

However, Hong Xinyuan did not explode in anger. He merely signaled Tian Cheng with his eyes, conveying, “You know what to do.” They would let the Azure Chamber of Commerce know just how powerful Frost Heaven was through this duel.

After a while, the coaching battle between Zero Wing and the Azure Chamber of Commerce officially began.

At this time, more people thronged the virtual combat platform. Whether it was Zero Wing’s members or Azure’s members, both were ecstatic.

“I heard that a newcomer from Frost Heaven is taking Gu Han’s place. I wonder how many seconds that newcomer can last.”

“I heard the best record so far is only 16 seconds.”

“Sixteen? In that case, Frost Heaven’s newcomer should last ten seconds.”

“Ten? Bullshit! I bet he won’t last more than six or seven seconds!”

The sudden substitution for the coaching battle sparked a heated discussion among the audience. In particular, Azure's members placed all their focus on guessing how many seconds Tian Cheng could last in the duel. This situation had Kerui gnashing her teeth and dumbfounded Muxin.

Is it because Frost Heaven hasn't made any major movements recently? Is everyone treating us as pushovers already? Muxin felt that something was amiss as she eavesdropped on the discussions.

The behavior of Azure's members was too strange. Every one of them spoke as if being able to last only several seconds against Zero Wing's representative was something to be proud of. None of them possessed the consciousness of an expert at all.

After Tian Cheng sat within the virtual combat cabin, the door on the other side of the cabin slowly opened. A young and beautiful girl then walked in, sat on the battle seat directly opposite Tian Cheng, and gently donned the link helmet.

However, contrary to Tian Cheng's expectations, his opponent did not exude an expert's temperament and sharpness at all — the girl next door type. Are you kidding me? Anger immediately stirred in Tian Cheng's heart when he saw this girl.

Initially, he thought that Zero Wing would send a great expert to fight him. He had even sought permission from Hong Xinyuan to use his full strength.

However, not only did Zero Wing not send Black Flame to face him, but even the Guild's two Vice Guild Leaders did not show up. Instead, it fielded a little girl. Zero Wing was thoroughly underestimating Frost Heaven.

“Old Ice Demon, this is the Guild you have high hopes for?” Hong Xinyuan chuckled involuntarily as he inspected Violet Cloud.

After seeing Duan Hanshan’s confidence, Hong Xinyuan had very nearly believed that there was more to Zero Wing than met the eye. However, given the current circumstances, it would seem he had been worried for nothing.

Although Violet Cloud was indeed talented for reaching the Void Realm at such a young age, she was still way behind when compared to Tian Cheng. In fact, Tian Cheng should end the fight within seconds.

“Of course.” Upon seeing the smile on Hong Xinyuan’s face, Duan Hanshan similarly smiled and suggested, “Why don’t we add to the wager, then?”

“What? Are you regretting your decision?” Hong Xinyuan smiled.

“No. In addition to the previous wager, how about we bet 100,000 Magic Crystals?” Duan Hanshan suggested happily.

“What if I don’t accept?” Hong Xinyuan asked.

In Hong Xinyuan’s opinion, Duan Hanshan was simply trying to scare him into canceling their bet. With the major update God’s Domain was undergoing, the prices of Magic Crystals and various materials were bound to increase. Hence, the various superpowers were currently doing their best to collect as much of these resources as possible; no one was willing to sell. Moreover, 100,000 Magic Crystals was a considerable sum, one even Hong Xinyuan wouldn’t wager casually. “It doesn’t matter if you refuse. It’s up to you,” Duan Hanshan said indifferently.

“Okay, I’ll bet with you,” Hong Xinyuan agreed after seeing Duan Hanshan give up so readily.

“Good. I knew you were a good person,” Duan Hanshan chortled.

“A good person?” Hong Xinyuan found Duan Hanshan’s words strange.

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Meanwhile, during their conversation, the holographic screen outside the combat cabin also displayed the battlefield Violet Cloud and Tian Cheng stood on.

The battlefield was a barren wilderness, with the two players 100 yards apart from each other. Both of them retained their Attributes, levels, and equipment from when they logged out of God’s Domain.

At this time, Tian Cheng sported six pieces of Epic Equipment. The spear he held also gave off a dark glow and made the surrounding space tremble slightly, even while idle. With one glance, it was obvious that the spear was an extraordinary Magic Weapon with Attributes that definitely surpassed those of ordinary Epic Weapons.

As for Tian Cheng, he had already reached Level 119. His level ranked at the top even among the entirety of God’s Domain.

“Hehe, now you know how powerful our Guild is,” Kerui muttered. However, contrary to Kerui’s expectations, the crowd outside the combat cabin didn’t reveal any surprise or exclaim in shock, remaining remarkably calm.

On the other hand, complicated feelings flashed in Muxin's eyes as she looked at the holographic screen. It was as if she had just seen something unbelievable.

Kerui followed her elder sister's gaze.

Violet Cloud, Level 121.

Violet Cloud was two levels higher than Tian Cheng.

"Level 121?"

Kerui was dumbfounded. Frost Heaven had mobilized all its resources to help Tian Cheng reach Level 119. Yet, a Cleric from Zero Wing was actually two levels above him.

Inside the virtual combat space, Tian Cheng was also surprised. He never imagined that someone would surpass him in terms of levels, and by two levels at that.

"It seems you're quite capable. However, this level difference won't bring you any advantages," Tian Cheng said as he looked at Violet Cloud. "On the other hand, fighting in such an open wilderness is a huge disadvantage for a magical class like yourself. You won't have any room for evasion."

"That might not be the case!" Violet Cloud shook her head, disagreeing with Tian Cheng's opinion. "Is that so? Let me see if you're right, then!"

After saying so, Tian Cheng suddenly charged at Violet Cloud, leaving behind an afterimage in his original location.

Tier 3 Skill, Shadow Thorn!

Due to the virtual combat cabin's limitations, he couldn't replicate 100% of his strength in God's Domain; however, his physique and Basic Attributes were the same as what he had in the game.

While ordinary Tier 3 players might take some time to cross 100 yards, Tian Cheng boasted the Tier 3 Hidden Class Dragonspear Warrior.

In the blink of an eye, he appeared before Violet Cloud and thrust his spear at her.

A flurry of spear images rained down on the Cleric, every one of them distorting space.

This attack was Tian Cheng's best technique, something even Domain Realm experts found challenging to receive.

"A combination of magic and martial arts?"

Duan Hanshan immediately understood the underlying principles of Tian Cheng's technique, and he had to admit that the youth was indeed very talented. While Tian Cheng's technique might look like a series of simple thrusts, these attacks actually formed a magic array that allowed them to integrate into one. Tian Cheng's Mana manipulation ability was simply inhuman. The power of his attack was definitely on par with Mythic monsters of the same level.

If this attack struck a magical-class player, the result would undoubtedly be instant death.

Just as Kerui felt proud of Tian Cheng's performance, a sigh entered her ears.

"That guy sure is brave. He actually entered melee range. He's dead for sure."

Kerui quickly dismissed these words. After all, if not a melee, how should a melee player fight a magical-class player? At range?

Even a greenhorn wouldn't speak such nonsense!

Defying Kerui and the others' expectations of a quick retreat and a counterattack once Tian Cheng's assault ended, Violet Cloud held her position. Moreover, she even took the initiative to meet Tian Cheng's attack.

Just when the rain of spears was about to land, Violet Cloud swung her staff horizontally and raised her free hand to receive the fierce assault.

Not only did this scene stunned the spectators outside the combat cabin, but even Tian Cheng himself was puzzled.

A magical-class player trying to receive a melee player's attack without spells was simply suicide!

However, when Violet Cloud's hand was about to come into contact with the spear images, a twofold magic array suddenly appeared on her palm.

Tier 3 Defensive Spell, Amethyst Barrier!

After summoning the Amethyst Barrier, Violet Cloud waved her hand once more, pushing out the crystalline barrier.

The next moment, not only did the spear images scatter upon clashing with the Amethyst Barrier, but the barrier even continued pressing forward toward Tian Cheng, forcing the latter to dodge it. "Tier 3 Defensive Spells can be used like that?" Kerui was stunned when she saw Violet Cloud nullify Tian Cheng's attack.

Defensive Spells in God's Domain were generally stationary; they couldn't be moved once cast. The main reason for this was the inhuman level of Mana control required to execute such a complex feat. This was something beyond even Domain Realm experts, yet Violet Cloud had done it. Meanwhile, just as Tian Cheng dodged the Amethyst Barrier and was about to launch another attack on the Cleric, he suddenly froze in shock.

Over 300 magic blades had appeared around Violet Cloud, dancing around her like sprites. Every one of them carried enough power to decimate heaven and earth. Without giving Tian Cheng a chance to catch his breath, these magical sprites immediately shot at him.

Double speed-casting? Tian Cheng hurriedly executed a Defensive Combat Technique while simultaneously activating a Tier 3 Defensive Skill.

The next moment, a pitch-black phantom emerged from Tian Cheng's body and spread toward the oncoming magic blades.

Boom... Boom... Boom... A series of explosions occurred in midair, the sound reverberating throughout the battlefield. The spatial fluctuations occurring were even visible on the virtual combat platform's holographic screen.

Tian Cheng's defense could be said to be perfect. He had already reached consummate mastery over his Domain. Every one of his actions had been simplified to the extreme, and they created an iron wall before him.

Three seconds later, a person's silhouette flew out of the dust veiling the battlefield and smashed into the ground.

"How is this possible?!"

Kerui was stupefied when she identified this silhouette.

After all, this person was none other than Tian

Cheng.

**Chapter 2699 – A Foregone Conclusion**

“I...actually lost?”

Tian Cheng wore a dazed expression when he woke up back inside the combat cabin. For a time, his thoughts lingered on the final moment of the fight.

“What exactly happened to Tian Cheng? How did he get defeated so suddenly?”

Questions flooded Kerui’s mind as she stared at the holographic screen. Tian Cheng was clearly holding his own against the magic blades a second ago. Yet, in the next second, he got devoured by them. This situation was like a nightmare. Tian Cheng had combined a Bronze Defensive Combat Technique with a Tier 3 Defensive Skill. Even Tier 4 Mythic monsters couldn’t have harmed him.

How could a Tier 3 Cleric like Violet Cloud possibly land an attack on him?

However, unlike Kerui, none of the spectators around the Frost Heaven contingent were surprised by this situation. Azure’s members, in particular, even felt that this was a reasonable outcome.

“She seized his Mana!” Muxin gasped deeply as she looked at Violet Cloud’s figure displayed on the screen. “Her control over Mana is already at the Tier 4 standard. She has full control over the Mana within her sphere of control, and players below Tier 3 cannot use Mana to fight her.”

In God’s Domain, players would start learning how to manipulate Mana after reaching Tier 2. And to advance to Tier 3, they had to construct a Mana Body, which allowed them to manipulate the ambient Mana to power and enhance their skills and Spells.

However, if players couldn't utilize the ambient Mana, then their Skills and Spells would be drastically weakened.

In contrast, once a player's control over Mana reached the Tier 4 standard, they could control all the Mana within a 50-yard radius or more. And within this range, the Skills and Spells they used would far surpass that of ordinary Tier 3 players.

With the combination of these two effects, even though Tian Cheng had vastly superior combat standards, he was still no match for Violet Cloud in terms of overall combat power.

Realization dawned upon Kerui when she heard Muxin's explanation, and complicated emotions filled her heart as she looked at Violet Cloud.

"She's not much older than me, right?" Kerui mumbled to herself. "Could she be the incarnation of a Tier 4 NPC?"

Not only did Violet Cloud reach the Void Realm standard at such a young age, but her control over Mana had also reached the Tier 4 standard. This was a feat that veteran Domain Realm experts had yet to accomplish.

Hong Xinyuan, sitting beside Kerui, reacted surprisingly calmly to the duel's outcome. In fact, a hint of appreciation even appeared in his eyes as he looked at Violet Cloud.

"Old Hong, you didn't lose unjustly, right?" Duan Hanshan asked as he stroked his beard.

“It seems you figured me out long ago.” Hong Xinyuan didn’t get angry over losing 15 bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluid and 100,000 Magic Crystals. On the contrary, a smile even appeared on his face.

“Of course. Any well-informed superpower could find out about that matter.” Duan Hanshan nodded. “You didn’t lose for nothing this time. You should know that Elder Sinful Flame lost to this young lady in our internal competition. You should be laughing at your harvest.”

However, what Duan Hanshan didn’t know was that the current Violet Cloud was much stronger than when she fought against Sinful Flame. This time, she didn’t rely on her staff to raise her Concentration to the Tier 4 standard. Instead, she had reached Tier 4 by relying on herself.

In other words, her Mana control had improved by a significant margin.

“Yes, this is a worthwhile loss.” Hong Xinyuan also couldn’t help smiling at Duan Hanshan’s words. “This trip wasn’t in vain, after all.”

“Uncle Hong?” Hong Xinyuan’s happy reaction confused Kerui.

That was 15 bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluid and 100,000 Magic Crystals they were talking about. This was a significant sum, even for Frost Heaven.

“That’s right. This is a worthwhile loss.” Muxin also smiled.

Frost Heaven’s operation this time was of utmost importance. It might even affect the situation of God’s Domain. It was naturally better for the foreign aid they requested to be as strong as possible.

Although Tian Cheng couldn't display his full strength with the virtual combat platform, the abilities Violet Cloud had revealed thus far were already more than enough to qualify her as a capable helper.

"Muxin, you did a good job this time," Hong Xinyuan praised Muxin.

"I am only trying to help the Guild." Muxin smiled in delight. It wasn't easy to earn Hong Xinyuan's praise. "Afterward, notify Black Flame that I will give Zero Wing 20 slots for our secret operation. Also, aside from the 100 bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluid, the Boulder Corporation will also give Zero Wing three slots to enter the Upper Zone if the operation succeeds," Hong Xinyuan said, smiling.

"Uncle Hong?" Muxin was shocked. For a moment, she even thought her ears were playing tricks on her.

"Uncle Hong, aren't you giving too much?" Kerui's eyes were also wide with shock. She wondered whether Hong Xinyuan had lost his mind.

Zero Wing was an outsider. Giving the Guild some items and Credits should already be more than enough. Yet, Hong Xinyuan was actually offering those precious slots as remuneration. If the corporation's Grand Elders were to learn of this, they would definitely jump in shock. After all, many of these Grand Elders' children and grandchildren didn't even get those slots.

"How generous of you, Old Hong. If I remember correctly, you shouldn't have that many reserved slots in hand, right?" Duan Hanshan was also astonished by Hong Xinyuan's decision.

To ordinary people, entering the Upper Zone was but a dream. To the wealthy, this name was something they all desired.

The Upper Zone was a special region the Green God Company had constructed, and only select megacities had it. In total, there were fewer than 60 Upper Zones worldwide.

Meanwhile, the main reason why countless wealthy people sought to enter the Upper Zone was longevity and youth.

According to statistics gathered 50 years ago, the average life expectancy of people living in the Upper Zones had already reached 130 years. In addition, residents could remain in their prime up to 80 years old. In other words, an 80-year-old person living in an Upper Zone could be as physically fit as a 50-year-old person living in the outside world.

And this was only the statistics from 50 years ago.

The Upper Zones offered many other benefits. However, only residents would know what these benefits were.

Meanwhile, the number of people allowed to enter the Upper Zones every year was limited. Moreover, one wouldn't necessarily be able to enter an Upper Zone just by having money. One also needed to meet certain conditions.

Of course, the Green God Company would also reserve a number of slots for the international corporations that were its partners. However, this number was so incredibly small that these corporations couldn't bear giving any of their slots to outsiders. Only those who had made great contributions could receive a slot.

For Hong Xinyuan to offer three slots to Zero Wing was an unreasonably generous move.

“I can still afford to give away three slots,” Hong Xinyuan said, clicking his tongue. However, while he pretended not to care very much, the distress in his eyes couldn’t escape any of the experts present.

“It seems you have it tough, as well,” Duan Hanshan said as he gave Hong Xinyuan a complicated look. Of those present, only he knew of some of the reasons behind Hong Xinyuan’s decision. However, Duan Hanshan’s words bewildered Muxin and Kerui.

“Alright, our goal has been achieved. We should go now.” Hong Xinyuan chuckled without giving an explanation. He then turned around and walked out of the lobby, showing no intention of staying even a moment longer.

After Hong Xinyuan’s group left, Gu Han, who was standing some distance away, approached Duan Hanshan.

“Elder Duan, why did Frost Heaven pay Zero Wing a visit this time?” Gu Han asked out of curiosity. “It’s nothing important.” Duan Hanshan took a deep breath, complex emotions darkening his eyes as he watched Hong Xinyuan’s group exit the building. “It’s just that a big change is imminent, and the time you youngsters have is dwindling.”

“A big change?” Gu Han grew even more confused at Duan Hanshan’s words.

Just as Gu Han was about to ask more questions, Liang Jing walked out of an elevator and approached them.

“Elder Duan, our Guild Leader would like to see you,” Liang Jing said respectfully.

“It seems your Guild Leader finally decided to come out. He really kept this old man waiting.” Nodding, Duan Hanshan continued, “It just so happens I want to talk to him about the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion. Lead the way.”

“This way, please, Elder Duan.” Liang Jing led Duan Hanshan to the express elevator to the building’s top floor.

## **Chapter 2700 – Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion’s Disappearance**

Zero Wing Tower, top-floor reception room:

“Shi Feng, meeting you truly isn’t easy. This old man has waited two whole days,” Duan Hanshan said facetiously as he took a sip of tea on the sofa.

Despite Duan Hanshan’s jocular words, a hint of surprise flashed in his eyes as he looked at Shi Feng. He could feel something different about Shi Feng, yet he couldn’t put his finger on it at the moment.

In God’s Domain, Shi Feng felt like a vast ocean. Now, although he still gave off a calm and vast feeling, Duan Hanshan could also feel hints of wind and rain coming from the youth. It was as if this calm could explode at any moment.

In fact, Duan Hanshan could even feel a faint trace of danger from Shi Feng right now. However, this feeling was intermittent, leaving Duan Hanshan uncertain. Shi Feng himself didn’t notice this change.

After completing his Tier 4 promotion and exiting his virtual gaming cabin, he only felt that his thoughts had become sharper and nothing more. This situation also puzzled Shi Feng somewhat. Unlike the previous breakthroughs he had, his body didn't become deprived of energy because of the breakthrough. On the contrary, his current physical condition was surprisingly good. He had not entered a state of weakness after this breakthrough.

"Elder Duan, you jest. I truly had to go to great lengths to get out of God's Domain," Shi Feng explained. "May I know why you decided to visit Zero Wing's headquarters personally this time? Did something big happen?"

Duan Hanshan was the Duan family's representative in the Azure Chamber of Commerce. His status was not the slightest bit inferior to that of the Guild Leaders of super-first-rate Guilds. No matter how one looked at it, there was no way someone of such status would escort a bunch of newcomers for training. This was especially true for Azure, a superpower that focused on commerce. Azure was much busier than combat-oriented Guilds, as it had to maintain a vast and accurate information network.

"You really are a straightforward person. You behave nothing like the Guild Leaders of other powers." Duan Hanshan chuckled. "However, I am similar to you in this aspect.

"In that case, I'll get straight to the point. Indeed, I didn't come here for the training meeting but another major event. This matter might even have something to do with Zero Wing."

"A major event that concerns Zero Wing?" Shi Feng couldn't help growing curious. "May I know what this event is, Elder Duan?" If even an individual like Duan Hanshan spoke of this matter as a major event, then it had to involve the various superpowers. However, based on what he heard from Liang Jing, aside from the system update, there shouldn't be any other major events in God's Domain recently. "You should be aware of what happened to the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion, right?" Duan Hanshan asked.

"Yes. The Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's three Pavilion Masters disappeared together with their close aides, and there has been no news of them even now," Shi Feng replied, nodding.

The three Pavilion Masters' disappearance had caused an uproar among the various superpowers. He had also asked Mu Lingsha to inquire into the situation, but she still hadn't discovered anything thus far.

"The matter I spoke of is somewhat related to the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion," Duan Hanshan said, his expression growing serious. "Two days ago, the Guild Leader and Vice Guild Leaders of the Nine-star Family all disappeared." "The Nine-star Family's leadership disappeared? How is this possible?" Shi Feng was stunned by the news. Not only was the Nine-star Family a super-first-rate Guild, but its background was even stronger than the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's. According to rumors, the Guild had suddenly gained the support of a powerful corporation. It currently occupied a portion of several empires and was close to catching up with Starlink.

Moreover, the Nine-star Family had six Vice Guild Leaders, who independently managed the Guild Branches in different empires. The fact that all of them had disappeared overnight was even more unbelievable than the simultaneous disappearance of the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's three Pavilion Masters.

As for the possibility of someone attacking the Nine-star Family's headquarters, that was even more impossible. After all, powers of such caliber possessed comprehensive security systems. Even several grandmaster martial artists shouldn't be able to kidnap these people in secret.

"News of this matter has been blocked. Not many superpowers know of it," Duan Hanshan said in a quiet tone.

"What does this have to do with Zero Wing?" Shi Feng grew even more curious after hearing Duan Hanshan's words. "Could the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion have a hand in this matter?"

"No." Duan Hanshan shook his head. "According to Azure's investigations, both the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's and Nine-star Family's leaders disappeared after secretly meeting with Saint's Hand. And

according to inside information from the Nine-star Family, after the Guild's leaders disappeared from the game, a group of mysterious people took their gaming cabins away."

"A group of mysterious people took their gaming cabins? Is this Saint's Hand's doing?" After hearing Duan Hanshan's explanation, Shi Feng suspected that the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion had faced a similar situation. "Also, did you find out where their cabins were transported to?"

"While we still don't know if this incident is related to that mysterious bunch in God's Domain, we did find out where the cabins were transported to," Duan Hanshan replied, chuckling

"Where?" Shi Feng asked curiously.

Logically, with the forces the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion and Nine-star Family wielded, the two Guilds should've been able to locate their leaders quickly. However, even now, there was no news from the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion. This was truly a bizarre situation.

"The...Upper...Zone!" Duan Hanshan said these words one by one.

"The Upper Zone?"

The fog enveloping Shi Feng's heart grew heavy. He simply couldn't understand what was going on. Phoenix Rain was merely one of the leaders of a super-first-rate Guild. Why would someone of her status be dragged into such a huge incident?

Shi Feng knew a little about the Upper Zone. It was a special region capable of extending the lifespan of its residents. However, not just any wealthy person could enter it. In the eyes of the Upper Zone's residents, ordinary corporations were no different from ants. Even the leaders of the major corporations

backing the Azure Chamber of Commerce would have to maintain a low profile while inside the Upper Zone, all the more someone like Phoenix Rain.

It wouldn't be far-fetched to say that there shouldn't be any relations between Phoenix Rain and the Upper Zone.

"Saint's Hand is deeply involved in this matter. I came here this time to tell you that it's best not to provoke Saint's Hand too much during this time. Who knows? Zero Wing might end up becoming the next Nine-star Family," Duan Hanshan warned earnestly.

"Provoke Saint's Hand?" Revealing a bitter smile, Shi Feng said, "I've never taken the initiative to provoke them."

To occupy the Orc Empire, Saint's Hand had already set its sights on Silverwing Town. It wasn't that he wanted to provoke Saint's Hand. Rather, the other party had already resolved to take his life.

"However, you don't have to worry too much about this, either," Duan Hanshan said, chuckling.

"Don't need to worry?" Shi Feng asked, puzzled.

Although he had adequate strength now, he was certain the security of Zero Wing's headquarters was far from comparable to that of the Nine-star Family's and Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's headquarters.

"Frost Heaven's Hong Xinyuan has promised that so long as Zero Wing helps Frost Heaven complete the task you two agreed on, he will give Zero Wing three reserved slots to enter the Upper Zone," Duan Hanshan said, smiling. "This is the opportunity of a lifetime. Any superpower would laugh to death if

they received such a wonderful opportunity. You should know how extraordinary the Upper Zones are. Those places are possibly the safest locations in the world.”

Although both the Nine-star Family and Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion were super-first-rate Guilds, the corporations backing them lacked the power to secure slots to enter the Upper Zone for the Guilds’ leadership. Otherwise, the two Guilds wouldn’t have faced such a predicament.

This piece of news rendered Shi Feng speechless.

Just what is Frost Heaven trying to do for it to be so generous?

These were reserved slots for the Upper Zone they were talking about! All else aside, just the Upper Zone’s security aspect was already more than enough to make the various superpowers’ Guild Leaders go crazy. During his previous life, even when the Guild Leaders of first-rate Guilds offered billions of Credits, they still couldn’t secure a slot in the Upper Zone. Only the Guild Leaders of super-first-rate Guilds could barely manage to do so.

Yet, now, Frost Heaven was actually offering three slots to Zero Wing!

At this moment, Shi Feng wouldn’t be surprised if Frost Heaven wanted Zero Wing to mount a full-on assault on the Five Great Super Guilds.

“You’re quite lucky, honestly. If it were any other time, Frost Heaven most likely wouldn’t offer such a price for Zero Wing’s help,” Duan Hanshan said, sighing. “As for what exactly Frost Heaven wants Zero Wing to do, I can’t reveal it to you now. Someone from Frost Heaven will notify you when the time comes. In any case, it isn’t a simple task. Zero Wing has to be careful. Otherwise, it wouldn’t be surprising if Zero Wing were to perish.”

“Thank you for your reminder, Elder Duan,” Shi Feng sincerely thanked Duan Hanshan. Duan Hanshan’s willingness to reveal the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion’s and Saint’s Hand’s matters to him already demonstrated Azure’s sincerity in its partnership with Zero Wing. Shi Feng naturally had to show his appreciation.

“Azure hasn’t done anything noteworthy. How you’ll proceed in the future is still up to you to decide,” Duan Hanshan said, chuckling. Seeing as Shi Feng was willing to accept the Azure Chamber of Commerce’s kindness, his task here was done. “Alright, I should go now.”

After saying so, Duan Hanshan left the reception room. He didn’t even let Shi Feng send him off as he silently disappeared from Zero Wing’s headquarters.

“Guild Leader, what should we do now?” Liang Jing asked worriedly after Duan Hanshan left.

Saint’s Hand posed too much of a threat. If they didn’t act carefully, they might very well end up like the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion and Nine-star Family.

“We can only take things as they come,” Shi Feng said. “However, we’ll have to reorganize our plans. Once God’s Domain’s system update ends, have all of Zero Wing’s main force members gather at Silverwing City. It’s about time Zero Wing underwent some changes.” God’s Domain’s major updates were extraordinary, each triggering a complete shift in the game’s structure. Since the first major update came a little sooner than expected, he would have to start overhauling Zero Wing’s expansion plans. Otherwise, the Guild wouldn’t even have scraps to fight over, let alone contending against Saint’s Hand and the various superpowers.

“I understand. I’ll get it done as soon as I go online,” Liang Jing said, nodding.

Time passed quickly. Before anyone knew it, God’s Domain’s major update had been completed, and everyone started logging back into the game at seven o’clock in the morning.

Lying in his virtual gaming cabin, Shi Feng took a deep breath when he saw the “Login” button appear on the screen before him. “Login!”