

Chapter 2781 – Times Have Changed

Fifty thousand contribution points? Tenth place?

When Zhuo Linqiu heard the Green God Company's staff's words, he was dumbfounded.

In fact, even Han Yifeng, who possessed an apathetic personality, felt a little dazed at the staff member's words.

After all, Shi Feng was initially only a pawn in their eyes. Yet, not only did he climb up to the same playing field they fought on, but he was now even actively competing with them.

"No wonder he didn't put us in his eyes." Realization dawned upon Zhuo Linqiu as he looked at Shi Feng. However, a moment later, a hint of mockery appeared on his face as he said, "It's a pity he doesn't know that the contribution competition participants are just warming up and that the current rankings are only temporary."

The Upper Zone's contribution competition had been going on for many years now, and everyone mostly understood how it worked. Those intent on participating in a particular season's competition generally wouldn't reveal their cards in the first two months of the season.

This was because contribution points were basically trump cards for participants. Naturally, it would be best if participants hid their cards as deeply as possible and only revealed them at the last possible moment. Only then could these trump cards play a vital role.

Moreover, there was an added benefit to accumulating contribution points in secret: deciding whether one would continue participating in a particular season's contribution competition or not. After all, aside from time-based assignments, other forms of contributions could be reserved for future competitions if necessary.

Since the contribution competition had been running for many years now, some participants had been accumulating contribution points for a long time. These participants were waiting for the fateful day when they would reveal all their cards, instantly securing one of the top three positions, and gain access to the middle layer.

Meanwhile, the current contribution competition was less than a month along. Hence, the various participants were still testing the waters and had yet to seriously invest their contribution points. The majority of their current points were from completing time-based assignments the Green God Company issued, not from long-term assignments that could be turned in at any time.

"Although I don't know why he made such a move, this is a good opportunity for us," Han Yifeng said, shaking his head as he regained his calm. "Old Zhuo, go talk to him and tell him I'll buy the remaining points he has kept hidden at double the price." "Double the price?" Zhuo Linqiu looked at Han Yifeng in surprise. "Young Master, historically, purchasing points at 1.5 times their original value is already pretty high. After all, there is no way these people can secure one of the top three rankings. There's no meaning for them to hold on to their points. If other people were to find out that you're offering to purchase his hidden points at double the price, they'd most likely raise their own prices, as well."

There were many instances where multiple participants joined hands to compete in the contribution competition. After all, unlike contribution points gained through completing assignments, points gained through other sources could be freely traded in secret.

When a competition was about to end, participants who were close to the top three positions would often purchase the hidden points of other participants. Naturally, as Han Yifeng was aiming for one of the top three positions this time, he would also participate in this practice.

The exchange rate would be based on the prices of the items sold by the Green God Company.

“Just do as I say. The Green God Company announced that the top 20 participants would receive a reward, so many people are trying to compete for the top 20 positions. It is only natural for the price of contribution points this time to be higher,” Han Yifeng said, shaking his head. According to the information he had obtained, the Green God Company intended to further squeeze the various corporations for their wealth. To do so, the company had intensified the competition by allowing the top 20 participants to exchange for a limited number of items exclusive to the middle layer.

Once this information spread, the price of contribution points would definitely increase.

However, while a price hike was inevitable, the increase wouldn't be exaggerated, either. After all, there were only so many items the top 20 participants could exchange using contribution points. Beyond that purchase limit, whatever contribution points they had remaining would become useless.

“I understand.” Zhuo Linqiu nodded and walked toward Shi Feng.

On the other side, Shi Feng was currently ecstatic.

Just a second ago, he had still been a poor bastard in the Upper Zone. Now, however, he had 5,000,000 trade points to his name enough to purchase five ordinary housing units in the base layer. Of course, these points were still insufficient to purchase a large villa in the base layer. However, they were definitely more than adequate for his daily expenditure. At the very least, even after welcoming Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose into the Upper Zone, he wouldn't have to worry about their necessities.

However, it's going to be difficult to get another large influx of points. It seems I'll have to think of a long-term way to secure Seven Luminaries Crystals in bulk, Shi Feng thought with a sigh.

Five thousand units of Seven Luminaries Crystal was a significant amount, yet it was only enough to get him 5,000,000 trade points and 50,000 contribution points. With just this many trade points and contribution points, let alone catching up with the top three rankers of the competition, he probably couldn't afford anything from the middle layer.

However, for his present self, obtaining more Seven Luminaries Crystals wasn't much of a challenge. After all, he was currently in the ancient God's Domain. The resources available in the ancient era were far more abundant than in the modern era.

After verifying on his quantum watch that he had received the 5,000,000 trade points and 50,000 contribution points, Shi Feng planned to head for the Upper Zone's entrance to receive Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose. After all, this was the first time they were visiting the Upper Zone. Without anyone to guide them, it was very easy for problems to occur.

There were many taboos in the Upper Zone. If they accidentally violated one of these taboos, there was a high chance they would be banished from the Upper Zone permanently.

However, before Shi Feng could leave the exchange counter, Zhuo Linqiu appeared beside him.

"Guild Leader Shi, we meet again." Although Zhuo Linqiu felt displeased at Shi Feng's earlier attitude, as Han Yifeng's butler, he still greeted Shi Feng politely. "Master Zhuo, do you have business with me?" Shi Feng asked calmly as he looked at Zhuo Linqiu. Inwardly, though, Shi Feng was a little surprised by this situation. Although he had expected Han Yifeng to seek him out sooner or later, he never thought that the man would act so quickly.

Kerui had informed him about the ins and outs of the contribution competition, so he knew that those competing for the top three spots would secretly purchase contribution points from other participants. Now that he had just exchanged for 50,000 contribution points in one fell swoop, those seeking the top three spots couldn't ignore his existence.

“Indeed, I do. Moreover, this is great news for you, Guild Leader Shi,” Zhuo Linqiu said with a faint smile. “I believe you know about the matters regarding the contribution competition already, so I’ll get straight to the point. Young Master Han wishes to purchase the contribution points you have yet to turn in. Moreover, Young Master Han is willing to purchase them at double their market value. May I know what you think of this, Guild Leader Shi?”

Chapter 2782 – Wealthy Shi Feng

“Double the market value?”

Shi Feng was a little surprised when he heard Zhuo Linqiu’s words.

According to Kerui, the transaction price for contribution points would reach 1.5 times the market value at most. Moreover, that was when the contribution competition was incredibly intense. After all, unless one entered the middle layer, it didn’t matter how many contribution points one managed to accumulate.

Yet, Han Yifeng was offering double the market value. Even if the Green God Company would allow the top 20 participants to exchange for three items from the middle layer this time, this was still a very high price.

After all, the difficulty of getting into the top three was simply too great. Before Shi Feng looked into the current top three participants, he had still been confident of getting into the top three. However, after gaining an understanding of those three participants, all thoughts of entering the top three had disappeared from his mind.

This was because those three people could instantly gain an additional one million contribution points if they grew serious.

In other words, if he wished to secure one of the top three positions, he would need 100,000 units of Seven Luminaries Crystal at the very minimum.

What did this amount represent?

Even if he squeezed the Five Great Super Guilds and a dozen other superpowers dry, getting such a huge number of Seven Luminaries Crystals was impossible. Moreover, this was only the minimum requirement to compete for the top three positions. Hence, he had no choice but to wait for Zero Wing to grow stronger and set aside trying for one of the top three spots for the future. In the current competition, he simply had no chance whatsoever.

Even if he was currently in the ancient God's Domain, with its more abundant resources, the Seven Luminaries Crystal was still an incomparably valuable commodity. Moreover, its rarity was not the slightest bit lower than in the modern era. In fact, competition for the Seven Luminaries Crystal was intenser in the ancient era.

From what he heard, the Interstellar Continent's various powers were similarly purchasing Seven Luminaries Crystals at astronomical prices. Residents of the Interstellar Continent could exchange for living resources in the real world using Seven Luminaries Crystals. In fact, if one collected a sufficient number of Seven Luminaries Crystals, one could even get promoted from an ordinary civilian to a resident of the core area. Simply put, every player in the ancient era was competing for Seven Luminaries Crystals.

On the other hand, only the major corporations based in Upper Zones were competing for Seven Luminaries Crystals in the modern God's Domain. The competition over the crystals had nothing to do with ordinary players. In fact, it didn't even have anything to do with ordinary corporations.

Hence, even if he were to contest frantically for Seven Luminaries Crystals in the ancient era, the amount he could get his hands on was unlikely to secure him one of the top three spots in the current contribution competition.

Now, he would be satisfied so long as he could secure one of the top 20 positions, and he could indeed afford to sell a portion of his additional points.

“That’s right. Double the market value. Guild Leader Shi, you should be able to see Young Master Han’s sincerity in this matter,” Zhuo Linqiu said, chuckling. “I can assure you that you won’t find another person in the base layer who would offer you such a price.”

The Five States Corporation was one of the top corporations in the country. It had deeper foundations than even the Boulder Corporation, albeit by only a slight margin. In addition, the corporation even had a genius like Han Yifeng as its heir. It was only a matter of time before the corporation set foot in the middle layer.

After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng replied, “I can agree to that price, but I have a condition.”

Han Yifeng’s offer would tempt anyone. After all, this was equivalent to receiving a 50% discount on the various products the Green God Company put up for exchange. For Shi Feng, who was currently severely lacking in the Upper Zone’s resources, Han Yifeng’s offer was heaven-sent.

“Condition? What condition?” Zhuo Linqiu frowned slightly. In his opinion, the price Han Yifeng offered was already quite generous. He never thought that Shi Feng would want a foot after getting an inch.

"I want to settle the transaction using Life Potions, Phantom Potions, or the middle layer's limited products," Shi Feng said. "I will not accept anything else, apart from these items."

Five million trade points were already more than enough for him to get by in the base layer; there was no point in getting more. Only the limited exchange items were of value to him.

Particularly, the Life Potion and the Phantom Potion weren't available in the outside world. Even if he tried to exchange for these items using his authority, he could get only five bottles per year. This amount wasn't even enough for his own use, much less sharing it with other people. "This condition is too much! You should know that those items can't be bought even with a large number of trade points and contribution points!" Zhuo Linqiu flatly refused Shi Feng's condition. "Nobody in the entire base layer would satisfy this condition of yours."

Whether it was the Life Potion, the Phantom Potion, or the middle layer's limited items, they were all incredibly precious to the various corporations. No one would casually trade them away.

"How about I buy them at their original price?" Shi Feng suggested.

Shi Feng understood that he was indeed asking for a lot with his condition. However, this was also how negotiations worked. Only after both sides agreed on a price could a transaction take place.

"You..." Zhuo Linqiu fell speechless at Shi Feng's response. He felt that Shi Feng didn't understand his previous words at all.

However, before Zhuo Linqiu could manage a response, Han Yifeng's holographic projection suddenly appeared from Zhuo Linqiu's quantum watch. "It is impossible for me to sell those items at base price. However, with my authority, I can sell some to you at double the price. This is also the lowest I can go," Han Yifeng said. "Moreover, I believe that nobody else in the base layer would offer you a better price." "That works." Shi Feng didn't feel particularly surprised at Han Yifeng's counter offer. On the contrary, he found this outcome to be quite excellent already.

The limited items the Green God Company offered for exchange came with fixed price tags, and residents with the necessary authority could exchange for these items at any time. However, as their description suggested, each resident could exchange for only a limited number of these items. If a person wanted to get their hands on more, they could purchase these items from other residents at a marked-up price. Moreover, even if one were willing to pay the extra cost, one wouldn't necessarily be able to find a willing seller.

"That settles it, then." Han Yifeng nodded. "However, let me get one thing straight first. Every transaction we conduct must be valued at 50,000 contribution points or more. Otherwise, our transaction will be invalid."

"That won't be a problem," Shi Feng assured, smiling. He understood what was going through Han Yifeng's mind.

A sum of several thousand contribution points was most likely nothing in Han Yifeng's eyes. Moreover, such an amount wouldn't be of any help to him in the contribution competition. After all, if the top three participants were serious, they could easily add a million points to their names. Hence, a transaction of 50,000 contribution points was most likely the lowest acceptable amount for Han Yifeng.

"Okay. So long as you've collected 50,000 contribution points, you can come and find me at any time," Han Yifeng said before disconnecting the quantum communication.

After Han Yifeng finished speaking, Zhuo Linqiu turned around and walked away, leaving Shi Feng alone at the exchange counter.

When Zhuo Linqiu returned to Han Yifeng's side, he had a hesitant expression.

“Just speak your mind,” Han Yifeng said as he looked at his old butler.

“Young Master, I’m afraid the Old Master and the others will have big opinions about your decision to sell him those items at just double the price,” Zhuo Linqiu said worriedly. “After all, those items are things the corporation went to great lengths to accumulate. They are meant to serve as the foundation for the family’s younger generations.” “Foundation?” Han Yifeng suddenly smiled. “Unless we enter the middle layer, the Five States Corporation will be nothing but ants in the eyes of those above. Also, we have failed to enter the middle layer after all these years. If we don’t fight now, when will we fight? Moreover, the family has already promised to assist me with everything they have. If they’re not even willing to part with these items, how are we supposed to compete with the other participants?”

“However, just Shi Feng’s 50,000 contribution points won’t change anything,” Zhuo Linqiu said.

“I naturally know this. Shi Feng is only one of the small sources for me to secure contribution points.” At this point, Han Yifeng’s eyes began glowing slightly. “The old man has already met with the other corporations in the Upper Zone and made some promises to them. I believe he should have no problems securing seven or eight hundred thousand contribution points for me. Afterward, it’ll depend on whether I can complete the Green God Company’s bounty. So long as I succeed, I am certain I can enter the top three!”

He was hell-bent on winning the contribution competition this time.

Meanwhile, after Han Yifeng and Zhuo Linqiu left the exchange center, Shi Feng made his way to the item exchange counter.

Compared to the contribution points counter, the item exchange counter had many more people lined up before it. After waiting in line for around fifteen minutes, Shi Feng exchanged for five Phantom Potions and five Life Potions, as well as five Strengthening Potions, which cost the same as the Phantom Potions and Life Potions. In the end, he spent a total of 75,000 trade points.

In the outside world, that was already equivalent to 750 million Credits.

The Strengthening Potion was considered the least promising product in the Upper Zone because it had only one function: the strengthening of the user's physical fitness.

However, residents in the Upper Zone would have their physical fitness automatically raised to a certain level, even without any training. If one combined this effect with daily exercise, they could elevate their physical fitness to astonishing levels. Hence, there was simply no need to spend 5,000 trade points to exchange for a Strengthening Potion.

Nevertheless, Shi Feng naturally believed it was better for him to raise his physical fitness as quickly as possible. After all, the stronger his physical fitness became, the easier it would be to improve his brain activity.

Often, when Shi Feng gained enlightenment and achieved a qualitative improvement in his techniques, he would find himself facing various problems stemming from his inadequate physical fitness. Had he been as fit as Han Yifeng during those times, he wouldn't have faced any problems at all.

Hence, he felt that it wasn't a loss to spend 25,000 trade points for five Strengthening Potions. Not to mention, he could already be considered a wealthy person in the base layer.

It's almost time to pick up Qingxue and Aqua.

After taking a look at the time, Shi Feng promptly departed the Green God Tower and hurried over to the Upper Zone's entrance.

Two hours later, a levitating car stopped at a designated parking lot before the gigantic metal door serving as the Upper Zone's entrance. Four people—one man and three women—then alighted from the car. They were none other than Lei Bao, Liang Jing, Bai Qingxue, and Aqua Rose. As to why Lei Bao had come along, it was as a precaution.

After all, many powers were currently targeting Zero Wing. Meanwhile, Liang Jing, someone with little combat power, was unsuited for going out alone. Hence, Lei Bao would usually accompany her whenever she left Zero Wing's headquarters. Ordinary bodyguards would have little to no use against the opponents Zero Wing faced.

"So, this is the Upper Zone?"

Liang Jing was surprised when she saw the vast steel wall at the Upper Zone's entry.

Even Lei Bao was surprised by the sight. He never thought that the rumored Upper Zone would have such an appearance.

Chapter 2783 – Era of Hegemony

Upper Zone, entrance:

While Liang Jing and Lei Bao were shocked by the sight before them, Shi Feng, who had been waiting quietly by the entrance for some time, approached them.

“How is it? It’s different from what you imagined, right?” Shi Feng asked, smiling faintly as he looked at the two. Their expressions and thoughts were exactly the same as his when he first arrived before the Upper Zone.

“Guild Leader, how is the Upper Zone?” Liang Jing asked as she looked at Shi Feng. “Is it as amazing as the rumors make it out to be?” There were many rumors circulating in the outside world about the Upper Zones. Nobody was allowed to go near the Upper Zones without permission despite them being in the middle of bustling cities. Hence, while everyone knew of the Upper Zones’ existence, no outsider truly understood them.

In fact, there was not the smallest piece of official news on the Upper Zone in the world. The information everyone knew came only from rumors.

Lei Bao couldn’t help pricking up his ears at Liang Jing’s question.

To him, the Upper Zone was a place he never even dared to dream of visiting. After all, even world champions in fighting couldn’t visit it.

“It’s amazing!” Shi Feng replied with a smile. “It’s even more amazing than the rumors make it out to be. The people inside can constantly grow stronger physically without doing any training.”

“So, is it true that even world-champion-level fighters are not a big deal in the Upper Zone?” Lei Bao asked when he heard Shi Feng’s words.

The fact that a place could automatically improve a person’s physical fitness was simply unbelievable. This revelation thoroughly shattered his view of physical training.

“That rumor is slightly exaggerated, but it’s not far off from the truth, either,” Shi Feng replied, not trying to conceal the truth. “Even without physical training, the Upper Zone’s residents can still achieve a physical fitness rivaling Henglian masters. With some systematic training, their physical fitness becomes even more astonishing.” “It’s actually such an amazing place?” Lei Bao was shocked.

He had undergone plenty of intense training to achieve his current physical fitness, yet the Upper Zone’s residents could easily accomplish a similar feat without any training. Who would possibly believe this?

However, Lei Bao knew that Shi Feng wouldn’t lie to him, so this inflicted an even greater shock.

All of a sudden, Lei Bao felt as if he had lived his life for nothing. He felt as if all his previous efforts were nothing but a joke.

“Master Lei Bao, no need to be discouraged.” Looking at Lei Bao, who suddenly grew disheartened, Shi Feng said, “Zero Wing will also develop in the Upper Zone in the future. At that time, it won’t be just Qingxue, Aqua, and myself who can enter this place. I will let many more people join us. Just like those international corporations, we will treat the Upper Zone as our headquarters!”

Although Shi Feng did not speak loudly, both Lei Bao and Liang Jing gasped involuntarily at his words. At the same time, a hint of anticipation and excitement flashed in their eyes.

If anyone else had made this statement, they would’ve most likely treated it as a joke.

However, Shi Feng was someone who constantly worked miracles, having single-handedly developed Zero Wing to its current scale. Moreover, he never did anything he was not confident of succeeding in.

His declaration meant that he had some way to achieve this goal. “Zero Wing will also develop in the Upper Zone in the future?” Liang Jing couldn’t help growing excited when she looked at the distant steel wall.

If Zero Wing really accomplished this feat, it would truly become a powerful existence. At that time, even ordinary superpowers would be a joke to the Guild.

Lei Bao clenched his fists in excitement and anticipation. He felt that his decision to join Zero Wing was the wisest choice he had made in his life.

“These three bottles here are Strengthening Potions. Liang Jing, take two back and give them to Fire and Violet,” Shi Feng said as he took out three Strengthening Potions and handed two to Liang Jing. He then turned to Lei Bao and said, “Master Lei Bao, you take one, as well. I believe that you should be able to go a step further with this Strengthening Potion.”

Fire Dance and Violet Cloud normally trained their physical bodies very seriously. The two of them also possessed incredible talent in this regard. Unfortunately, due to insufficient resources, their improvements had been gradual. With the Strengthening Potion’s assistance, their development would no longer be hindered.

As for Lei Bao, he also possessed excellent talent. Unfortunately, as he had always been a lone wolf, he never managed to get his hands on any resources and could only rely on hard work. However, he had reached the point where he couldn’t improve further through hard work alone.

Although Shi Feng had previously given Lei Bao several bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluids, which allowed him to improve his physical fitness significantly, it was evident that S-rank Nutrient Fluids alone couldn’t fully bring out Lei Bao’s potential.

However, with the Strengthening Potion, Lei Bao might be able to go a step further and become a Half-step Henglian grandmaster.

Meanwhile, if Lei Bao succeeded, then Zero Wing would gain an additional layer of protection.

“Thank you, Guild Leader. I won’t disappoint you.” Lei Bao’s eyes shone with gratitude as he looked at Shi Feng. He had heard of the Strengthening Potion before. This thing was basically treated as a divine item in the fighting industry. Just one bottle could allow a person’s physical fitness to undergo a qualitative transformation. Unfortunately, the medicine was incredibly rare, much rarer than even the Life Potion. According to rumors, even grandmaster martial artists had difficulty getting their hands on a bottle. In fact, some grandmasters would even put their lives on the line just to get their hands on it.

Yet Shi Feng not only took out three bottles but even gave him one. How could Lei Bao not grow excited in this situation?

With this Strengthening Potion, he was confident that even if he couldn’t become a Henglian grandmaster, he could, at least, reach a level where he could contend with neutralizing grandmasters. “By the way, Guild Leader, more and more NPCs are appearing in God’s Domain. As a result, some superpowers have designs on the Secret Covenant Tower. In fact, they’ve already clashed with us over a dozen times outside Sky Spring City. Currently, both sides have lost over a thousand Tier 3 players,” Liang Jing said suddenly. “Fortunately, Vice Guild Leader Illusory Words and Vice Guild Leader Unyielding Heart returned in time to preside over the situation. Otherwise, the consequences would’ve been unimaginable.

“However, the two of them believe that if this situation continues, their two Guilds are unlikely to hold back the various superpowers for very long. Moreover, some small Guilds have already begun disbanding due to the NPC population pressure. Many new NPC forces have also emerged in the various NPC cities, and these NPC forces are constantly harassing the local Guilds and pose a headache even for the various superpowers.

“Hence, the various superpowers are all trying to enter the Secret Covenant Tower, which doesn’t have NPC intervention. Moreover, I’m afraid that they will only grow more desperate as the NPC forces scale up their harassment.”

Shi Feng frowned upon hearing Liang Jing’s report on God’s Domain’s and the Secret Covenant Tower’s present situation.

He hadn’t anticipated that the NPC forces would actually begin taking action so soon.

Moreover, with the NPC forces now taking action, the main continent of God’s Domain would enter an era where hundreds of countries fought for hegemony. To survive the upcoming chaos, the various superpowers would probably do everything they could to secure the sacred leveling ground known as the Secret Covenant Tower.

“I understand.” After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng looked at Liang Jing and instructed, “For now, have everyone in the Guild avoid going out to do quests if possible. Instead, have them focus on grinding in the Secret Covenant Tower and restrict their sphere of activity to Sky Spring City and our three Guild Cities. Also, have Crimson Emperor and Unyielding Soul hasten their exploration. It doesn’t matter even if it increases the chances of the secret getting out. Our side will do the same as well.”

Originally, he thought that it would take the NPC forces another two weeks to take action. However, contrary to his expectations, the NPC forces had evidently completed their investigations already and made a move.

Once begun, the NPC forces’ harassment would only escalate as time passed. It wouldn’t be long before members of player forces would get attacked if they left the confines of towns and cities. Given enough time, NPC forces would even start launching attacks on Guild Towns and Cities, forcing the various Guilds to abandon their Guild Towns and Cities. This, in turn, would cripple the Guilds’ income and force them to disband.

“Okay. I’ll contact them once I return.” Liang Jing nodded. Shi Feng gave Liang Jing a few more instructions, such as secretly collecting the basic materials needed to construct the Small Mobile Fortress, then brought Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose into the Upper Zone. As for Liang Jing and Lei Bao, after looking at the three of them enviously for a moment, they promptly left in the levitating car.

In the Upper Zone, Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose’s condition immediately saw slight improvements. Now, they no longer looked as cold and indifferent as before. The degree of mental deterioration they suffered also declined significantly.

After they consumed the luxury set meals, which Shi Feng bought for 300 trade points each, their mental states even showed signs of stabilizing. They also no longer appeared indifferent to everything around them. At the very least, they display some interest in the Upper Zone’s matters. Occasionally, they even took the initiative to say a few words.

Seeing the two’s condition stabilizing, Shi Feng breathed out a sigh of relief.

The environment here should sustain the two of them for a long time. The next step is to figure out a way to consolidate my standing within the top 20. After seeing Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose enter their respective Fearless Cabins, Shi Feng started planning how to earn Seven Luminaries Crystals in God’s Domain.

Although he was currently ranked tenth in the contribution competition, the other participants had yet to take things seriously. Meanwhile, the competition’s top 20 participants’ being able to exchange for three items from the middle layer presented a huge opportunity for the various corporations. They would definitely do everything they could to enter the top 20. If he wished to secure his position within the top 20, he would need 200,000 contribution points, at the very least, and possibly more if the competition was intense. After all, the various corporations had been operating in the Upper Zone for a long time now. The wealth they had accumulated wasn’t something he could hope to rival.

In other words, he was still short of 15,000 units of Seven Luminaries Crystals right now.

This was an astronomical number, even for the Five Great Super Guilds. Afterward, Shi Feng drank a Strengthening Potion and Life Potion before lying down in the Fearless Cabin in his bedroom.

“Log in!”

Chapter 2784 – Tier 4 Upper-rank

Antimagic Mountain Range, Deep Valley: At the Antimagic Mountain Range’s core area, the Mana was scorching hot. Individuals without 300 points in Fire Resistance would instantly die upon entering Deep Valley. In addition, plenty of Level 140 Great Lord ranked monsters occupied this place.

Due to the environment, native Lord ranked monsters could exert power on the level of Great Lords, while Great Lord ranked monsters could exhibit combat power at the standard of Grand Lords. Let alone players, even Tier 4 NPCs of the same level wouldn’t dare come here.

However, a black shadow was currently flying through the flame-filled magma valley with over 100 Great Lord ranked Magma Colossi on its tail.

All of these Magma Colossi were over ten meters tall. When over a century of them ran together, their footsteps shook the valley. The commotion continuously attracted Lord ranked monsters to join in the chase.

[Magma Colossus] (Elemental Creature, Great Lord)

Level 140

HP 1,950,000,000

It seems this is the most I can attract in this area. After a glance at the Magma Colossi and Magma Golems chasing after him, Shi Feng began chanting an incantation in midair.

He had spent over a dozen minutes luring Magma Colossi. Despite his efforts, the group grew to just a little more than 100. Even the number of Lord ranked Magma Golems only hovered around 3,000. When he tried luring more, some of the ones chasing after him would lose interest and return to their original locations.

It was evident that the Main God System did not want to allow Tier 4 players to slaughter these low-intellect Elemental Creatures freely. Hence, the system had granted them the instinct to remain in their respective territories.

Meanwhile, as the Magma Colossi were about to get close enough to attack Shi Feng, he completed the incantation for Flame Domain and released it.

Originally, Flame Domain was only an AOE Offensive Spell; its range and power weren't comparable to large-scale destruction Spells. Even so, it still possessed incredible power. However, Shi Feng's Mana Domain, Mana quality, and the environment here had buffed Flame Domain to the point where it rivaled Tier 4 large-scale destruction Spells.

Even though the Magma Colossi and Magma Golems possessed high Elemental Resistance as Elemental Creatures, in front of absolute power, their HPs still fell rapidly. The monsters lost over 16 million HP every second. Moreover, the damage even increased by 20% every second.

By the time Flame Domain's seven-second duration ended, the Magma Golems were already in tatters; they had clearly fallen into a heavily injured state. The Magma Colossi, though, fared much better, as they had lost only around a hundred million HP and nothing else.

If only I had a Great Wizard here! Just one Tier 4 Curse would be enough to deal with the Lord ranked rabble. Afterward, all I would have to do is focus on dealing with the Great Lords. Shi Feng felt a little frustrated as he looked at the heavily injured Magma Golems.

He had been grinding for six consecutive days now, and he had basically wiped out the monsters in the Antimagic Mountain Range's outer and inner areas. Now, he was left with only the monsters in the core area to grind for EXP. However, the majority of the monsters here were only at the Lord rank, and they awarded him with barely any EXP when killed. Moreover, they took the most time to kill due to their numbers.

Fortunately, he had quite a few AOE Skills at his disposal. The Seven Luminaries Ring's Flame Domain was especially helpful. Without these Skills, he would've collapsed from exhaustion just dealing with the Lord ranked Magma Golems.

The next moment, after casting Flame Domain, Shi Feng followed up with Lightning Edge.

This Lightning Edge was completely different from the Lightning Edge he had used in the past. When he executed the Skill now, it looked as if he had summoned a raging river in the sky, one that covered 200 yards.

When the raging river flowed across the crowd of monsters, the weakened Magma Golems were instantly killed. The power of the Skill was not the slightest bit weaker than that of Tier 4 Skills.

Lightning Edge was capable of exhibiting such power now because Shi Feng had already upgraded it to the limits of Tier 3. The Skill's current power was worlds apart from when it was still at Tier 1 and Tier 2.

Of course, the amount of EXP Shi Feng had to invest in the Skill was astronomical.

This was also why despite having grinded for six consecutive days, Shi Feng had only reached 53% of Level 138. Otherwise, he would've long since shot past Level 140.

However, Shi Feng didn't really care about losing so many levels.

After reaching Tier 4, levels were no longer that important to players. For Tier 4 players, reaching Level 150 or even Level 200 was a simple task. After all, they could earn EXP many times faster than Tier 3 players. In front of a Tier 4 player, Great Lord ranked monsters that Tier 3 players had difficulty dealing with were no different from Common monsters. They merely had more HP and took more time to kill.

Despite this being the case, during Shi Feng's previous life, one would often see Tier 4 players stuck at around Level 130, even though Tier 3 players had reached Level 145 already.

The reason for this was simple. After reaching Tier 4, players would no longer gain significant improvements by relying on Epic Weapons and Equipment; only Fragmented Legendary Weapons and Equipment could help. Meanwhile, apart from obtaining Fragmented Legendary items, one other way Tier 4 players could improve their combat power by a large margin was through Tier 4 Skills and Spells.

Hence, after reaching Tier 4, anyone with brains would search for Tier 4 Skill and Spell Books. This was especially true for Tier 4 magical classes. A Tier 4 Spell Book was more valuable than several pieces of top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment.

Of course, due to the rarity of Tier 4 Skill and Spell Books, not all Tier 4 players would be lucky enough to invest their EXP into nurturing their Skills to Tier 4. Instead, most Tier 4 players would have to spend Legacy Skill Points to learn Tier 4 Legacy Skills. Such players would be fortunate to have three or four Tier 4 Skills in their arsenal.

This was also why most independent players who reached Tier 4 would possess high levels, while the various large Guilds' Tier 4 experts would have low levels. After all, the search for Tier 4 Skill Books required a lot of manpower. They were not items that could be found easily by relying on one person's strength.

Lightning Edge was a Tier 4 Skill Shi Feng had obtained from the Titan Library. Previously, when he was still at Tier 3, he couldn't gain EXP rapidly. Hence, he had always left the Skill at Tier 2. Now that he had reached Tier 4, he naturally couldn't continue wasting the Skill's potential.

After all, the Titan Library was a place players could enter only three times in their entire lifetimes. In other words, players could obtain three Skill Books, at most, from there. Most of the players that had visited the Titan Library had left with Tier 4 Skill Books because the Tier 5 and Tier 6 Skill Books were not things ordinary people could obtain.

Even now, Shi Feng was not confident he could get his hands on a Tier 5 Skill Book. After all, the higher a player's tier was, the more challenging the trial they would face inside the Titan Library.

Back then, he had managed to reach the library's central area because he was only at Tier 2. If he had visited the Titan Library when he was at Tier 3, he might not have reached the central area. Needless to say, now that he was at Tier 4, his chances of success were even lower.

Hence, unless he spent his Legacy Skill Points, he wouldn't be able to learn new Tier 4 Skills for the foreseeable future. This fact remained true even though he was currently in the ancient God's Domain. Even during the ancient era, Tier 4 Skill Books were not common goods.

Following this, Shi Feng spent around 20 minutes finishing off the remaining Magma Colossi. After he defeated all of the monsters chasing him, his experience bar had gone up from 53% to 66%. Unfortunately, while these monsters awarded a lot of EXP, it would be some time before they would respawn.

Apart from the generous EXP, the core area's monsters also awarded much more lucrative loot. Just killing this group of monsters netted Shi Feng over 500 fire-attributed Magic Crystals, 4,000 ordinary Magic Crystals, and plenty of Epic materials.

As for the rest of the items the monsters dropped, Shi Feng simply chucked them into his bag without checking. After all, it would take him a lot of time to inspect and organize all of the loot. To earn as much EXP as possible, he decided to ignore the items for now and have other people help him inspect the loot after he returned.

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He had to admit that the benefits of reaching Tier 4 and grinding in high-level maps ahead of others were truly wonderful, especially in the ancient God's Domain. Not only did he not have to worry about competition, but he could also earn resources by the truckload. Since he started grinding in the Antimagic Mountain Range until now, he had collected over 350,000 standard Magic Crystals and 43,000 fire-attributed Magic Crystals.

Subsequently, Shi Feng continued clearing out close to half of the Magma Colossi in the core area. His level had finally reached Level 139 as a result.

This was a level that even the ancient era's Tier 3 experts wouldn't dream of reaching at this point.

With this much EXP, I should be able to upgrade Lightning Edge to Tier 4. After looking at Lightning Edge's Skill Window, Shi Feng promptly chose to upgrade it to Tier 4. Shi Feng's level dropped from 139 to 136. The Skill had instantly devoured three levels' worth of EXP.

What a gluttonous fellow. Thank goodness I leveled up to 139 beforehand. Otherwise, I wouldn't even be at the average level of Tier 4 players right now. Shi Feng smiled bitterly as he looked at his own level. If he hadn't leveled up to Level 139, Lightning Edge's upgrade would've taken at least four levels' worth of EXP, dropping him to Level 135 or lower.

However, the benefits he gained were correspondingly massive. With Lightning Edge at Tier 4, the Skill would finally blossom and reveal its true power.

(Lightning Edge] (Action-type)

Tier 4 Upper-rank (When Skill Completion Rate reaches 120%, the Skill can exhibit power at the Tier 4 Peak-rank.)

Channeling time: 0.2 second

Deals 1,200% physical and 1,500% lightning damage in a cone in front of the user. Initial coverage range is 500 yards.

Duration: 7 seconds

Cooldown: 10 minutes

Amazing! As expected of a Tier 4 Skill from the Titan Library! Shi Feng was astonished when he read Lightning Edge's detailed introduction. It can already exhibit power at the Tier 4 Upper-rank standard even in its normal state. If I can execute it at 120% Completion Rate, combined with the Skill's range, it is practically comparable to a Tier 4 Taboo Skill.

As a Swordsman, most of his Skills were single-targeted—a huge limitation when fighting large numbers of monsters. However, Lightning Edge could now make up for this weakness. The only downside was the Skill's relatively long Cooldown. Even so, it would be more than enough to inflict heavy injuries on monsters and Mythic Bosses.

Just as Shi Feng was planning to continue grinding for levels, he suddenly received a message alert.

The sender of the message was Solitary Nine, and the message's content was simple: Everyone has left their respective Legacy Lands already. That's quick of them. Shi Feng smiled when he saw Solitary Nine's message. Now that I've resolved the problem of my deficient Skills and level, it's time to head back.

He activated the Seven Luminaries Ring's Space Movement, teleporting toward Meteorite City.

As Return Scrolls did not exist in the ancient God's Domain, players had to rely on their own two feet to travel to NPC towns and cities, which was a great inconvenience. If not for him having reached Tier 4, which granted him the ability to fly freely, and the omnipotent Seven Luminaries Ring, returning to Meteorite City would take ages.

However, perhaps that was why the ancient era's players did not surpass the modern era's players by too much in terms of levels despite the ancient era's advantages over the modern era.

Twenty minutes later, Shi Feng arrived before Meteorite City's entrance. Just like before, he could still see a ton of people coming and going

Chapter 2785 – Differences Gradually Emerge

Meteorite City, main street:

As Shi Feng walked through the city's main street, he noticed a visible change in the city's players. The number of Tier 3 experts roaming the main street was around 10% more than before. While this increase didn't seem significant, if one street saw a 10% increase to its Tier 3 traffic, then the other streets should've experienced a similar increase as well. In other words, Meteorite City as a whole had gained a 10% increase to its Tier 3 player population.

In the case of Meteorite City, such an increase meant that the city had gained over 100,000 more Tier 3 experts—a number that probably exceeded even the total of the Five Great Super Guilds' Tier 3 experts.

Aside from the Tier 3 player population, another evident change had also occurred to the city's atmosphere.

To be precise, an atmosphere of tension and excitement now enveloped the city.

Before Shi Feng could start looking into the city's situation, though, he overheard a conversation between several Tier 3 experts in a nearby open-air bar. "Crap! My application actually got rejected! I'm a Level 131, Tier 3 Ranger, for god's sake! Any other adventurer team or Guild would be more than happy to welcome me with open arms! Skyflare is simply too arrogant!" a tanned, robust youth snarled.

A Level 132 middle-aged man carrying a round shield shook his head and chuckled at the male youth's complaint. "You're not the only one. The number of Tier 3 experts Skyflare is rejecting currently ranges between 700 to 1,000 daily. Less than 10% of those who apply at Skyflare actually get in. Moreover, Skyflare's recruitment criteria are growing stricter by the day."

"That's right. The present Skyflare is no longer the same as before. It already has four Tier 4 experts. Moreover, according to insider information, two of them managed to reach Tier 4 thanks to the Crystal of Souls and Soul Water. From what I heard, Skyflare still has plenty of Crystals of Souls and Soul Water," a Level 131, Tier 3 Assassin youth said, agreeing with the middle-aged man's words.

"I heard that one of those two newly promoted Tier 4 experts relied on only the Soul Water to get promoted," the middle-aged man added. "The Crystal of Souls is incomparably rare, but it's a different story for the Soul Water. Even Skyflare's normal members have a chance to get a drop of Soul Water. Right now, if you lined up the people trying to join Skyflare, the line would probably extend from one end of the city to the other.

"I also heard that news of this has reached the neighboring cities' Tier 3 experts, and many of them are already making their way to Meteorite City. Once they arrive, the number of Skyflare's applicants will definitely skyrocket."

"If I'd known something like this would happen, I would've joined Skyflare long ago. Even if I can't get my hands on a Crystal of Souls, I would still be able to get a drop of Soul Water and maybe get promoted to Tier 4 and live a good life in the civilian area," the Assassin youth sighed.

The Skyflare adventurer team had recently raised its recruitment standards. Now, even ordinary Tier 3 experts wouldn't be accepted; at the very least, one needed to be at the Half-step Refinement Realm standard or Truth Realm standard to join.

It seems Skyflare has recently developed quite a bit. When Shi Feng overheard the Tier 3 players' conversation, he didn't feel particularly surprised. After all, the Skyflare adventurer team possessed a bunch of peak experts. In addition, unlike the modern era's experts, the ancient era's experts had long since regarded God's Domain as their everything. The combat standards of the players here were far superior to those of the modern era's players. If not for the ancient God's Domain lacking means of restoring one's Concentration, there would've been many more Tier 4 players roaming the world. After all, the ancient era's players had a massive advantage when it came to getting promoted to Tier 4.

Afterward, Shi Feng eavesdropped on a few more conversations about Skyflare's and Meteorite City's current state. From what he heard, he understood that Skyflare was preparing to expand its influence to other NPC Main Cities, and it was recruiting the necessary manpower to do so. Once it had enough Tier 3 experts, it would most likely make a beeline for the neighboring Main Cities.

As for the local player forces of those Main Cities, they would probably have difficulty stopping Skyflare's encroachment.

This was welcome news for Shi Feng. After all, the stronger Skyflare became, the easier obtaining all sorts of resources would be.

After listening in on a few more conversations and finding no more useful information, Shi Feng went to the Silver Hotel.

Silver Hotel, high-end room:

When Shi Feng entered the room, he found Lifeless Thorn and the others waiting for him. Of the five people in the room, three looked elated while two looked crestfallen. Shi Feng also noticed that the auras of the three had undergone a qualitative transformation.

These three people were Lifeless Thorn, Solitary Nine, and Yu Luo. As the three of them did not wear a Black Cloak to conceal themselves, their Tier 4 life auras were on full display.

“Commander, we’ve let you down,” Yan Ya said in a depressed tone as she watched Shi Feng walk over.

Cleansing Whistle, who stood beside Yan Ya, was also gloomy. It was evident she felt frustrated over her failure to get promoted to Tier 4.

“No need to be discouraged. Getting promoted to Tier 4 has never been easy. Even peak experts have a high chance of failure, let alone your present selves,” Shi Feng said in consolation. “Moreover, now that you know where you’re lacking, you can spend this time thinking of ways to address your flaws. I believe it won’t be long before you two reach Tier 4 as well.”

Shi Feng didn’t feel particularly surprised by Yan Ya and Cleansing Whistle’s failure. In fact, he wouldn’t even have found it strange if Lifeless Thorn and Solitary Nine had failed.

After all, the Tier 4 Promotion Quest truly was a difficult hurdle to cross, one players couldn’t overcome just by relying on combat standards. It required players to comprehend Tier 4 Skills and Spells under time constraints. However, there was a massive difference between Tier 3 and Tier 4 Skills. Learning a Tier 4 Skill to 80% Completion Rate within a limited period was an incredibly difficult feat.

In fact, a large part of the reason why Shi Feng had managed to complete his own Promotion Quest was his extensive experience, having undergone it several times before. In comparison, Yan Ya and Cleansing Whistle did not have such experience. Hence, their failure was very normal.

According to past statistics, 99% of the various superpowers’ core members failed their Tier 4 Promotion Quest when they challenged it for the first time; most never reached Tier 4. Those capable of reaching Tier 4 had normally experienced two or three failures before succeeding, with some even having suffered five or six failures.

Hence, Tier 4 could be considered an invisible barrier that thoroughly distinguished players from each other.

It was also because of this invisible barrier that an insurmountable gap had formed between the various superpowers and ordinary powers.

Upon hearing Shi Feng's words, Yu Luo nodded subconsciously in agreement, as she had very nearly failed her Promotion Quest this time. Were it not for the Soul Water's help, she definitely wouldn't have finished learning her Tier 4 Spell within the allotted time.

"Guild Leader, can Whistle and I remain here, then?" Yan Ya asked Shi Feng.

Unlike the modern God's Domain, players here were not required to search for their Legacy Land when challenging their Tier 4 Promotion Quest. They could attempt their promotion so long as they paid the necessary Magic Crystals. The only problem was that players who failed their Promotion Quest had to wait 20 natural days before they could challenge it again.

"This..." Shi Feng was at a loss as to how to answer Yan Ya. "I can't say for certain. I don't mind letting you challenge your Promotion Quests again 20 days later. However, I honestly don't know whether you can remain here for such a long period."

The old man did not say how long they could stay in the ancient God's Domain. They also didn't know what would hasten their departure from the ancient era.

Of course, they weren't completely without options for leaving.

Previously, the old man had said that if they drew the attention of the world of God's Domain, they would be repatriated to the modern era. In other words, so long as they did something to make the world notice them, they would quickly be banished.

One possibility Shi Feng could think of was raiding the Tier 4 Infant Dragon themselves, without Angelica Teresa's help. Angelica Teresa was a historical figure in the modern God's Domain. If the miracle of her slaying a Tier 4 Infant Dragon disappeared, the world of God's Domain would most likely notice them. If even that didn't work, they could just cause a ruckus in the ancient era, such as killing important NPCs and affecting God's Domain's history. The world would definitely notice them then. However, Shi Feng didn't know when they could return to the ancient era again in that case. He also didn't know what kind of effects their actions would have on the world. "Is that so?"

Yan Ya and Cleansing Whistle couldn't help feeling helpless when they heard Shi Feng's answer.

If they returned to the modern God's Domain, reaching Tier 4 would become many times more difficult. After all, the task of searching for their Tier 4 Legacy Land was incredibly challenging. Afterward, Lifeless Thorn, Solitary Nine, and Yu Luo shared their experiences learning their respective Tier 4 Skills and Spells with Yan Ya and Cleansing Whistle. At the same time, the three of them also sought guidance from Shi Feng regarding the combat methods of Tier 4 players. They were especially keen to learn how to utilize environmental Mana in combat.

After reaching Tier 4, they finally understood just how massive the gap between Tier 3 and Tier 4 classes was. Particularly, the way they controlled Mana was completely different. As the first among them to reach Tier 4, Shi Feng naturally had a better understanding in this regard.

After Shi Feng taught Lifeless Thorn's group for half an hour, Skyflare's commander, Lionheart, suddenly contacted him. In the ancient God's Domain, if two players were too far away from each other, video calls between them would be impossible. At most, they could only exchange messages.

The transmission of messages wasn't instantaneous, either. Depending on the distance, the transmission times would also vary. In the aspect of communication, the ancient God's Domain was far inferior to the modern God's Domain. However, it was this inferiority that made the ancient era feel more like a real world. "Brother Black Flame, you're finally back," Lionheart said, a hearty look appearing on his face when he saw Shi Feng. "May I know when we can meet up?"

"We can meet up now. I've already dealt with the matters on my side," Shi Feng replied, smiling. "It just so happens that I need to discuss the previous matter with you." From Lionheart's expression, Shi Feng could tell that the Crystals of Souls and Soul Water were of significant help to the Skyflare adventurer team. Otherwise, Lionheart wouldn't have contacted him as soon as he returned.

"Okay. Let's meet in the Skyflare Hotel. I've already prepared everything on my side," Lionheart said, smiling. "I also have a big surprise prepared for you, Brother Black Flame."

"No problem. I'll head over now." Shi Feng nodded. He then disconnected the call and turned to Lifeless Thorn and the others. "The three of you should get ready. We'll be heading to the Skyflare Hotel in a moment, and we might begin the operation right away."

In response, Lifeless Thorn, Solitary Nine, and Yu Luo nodded without hesitation. They understood that they were what Shi Feng had been waiting for all this time. Now that they had completed their Promotion Quests, it was indeed time to take action.

As for Yan Ya and Cleansing Whistle, Shi Feng decided to let the two of them remain in Meteorite City in the hopes that they could avoid the world's detection and challenge their Tier 4 Promotion Quests again 20 days later.

Shortly afterward, Shi Feng's four left the Silver Hotel and made their way to the Skyflare Hotel.

Chapter 2786 – Foundation Versus Foundation?

Meteorite City, Skyflare Hotel:

Due to the arrival of Shi Feng's group of four, Skyflare's executives had decided to assemble in full. As a result, the conference room serving as the meeting venue seemed a bit crowded despite being the size of a basketball court.

Over 100 Skyflare executives filled the conference room, every one of them at Level 133 or above. Even the weakest among those present were at the Refinement Realm and Truth Realm standards. The number of peak experts exceeded 20.

If Skyflare operated in the modern God's Domain with such a force, it would be considered a top adventurer team that even the various superpowers would be wary of. After all, only the superpowers could match such a force; first-rate Guilds wouldn't even dream of accomplishing a similar feat.

In addition, among Skyflare's executives, five possessed incredibly strong life auras, proof that they had crossed the Tier 4 threshold already. Compared to the rumors floating around the city, Skyflare actually had one more Tier 4 player under its command. Of the three newly promoted Tier 4 players, one of them was the female Assassin Crimson Billow. The remaining two were both vice commanders of Skyflare. One of them was Blood Blade, a Level 135 male Berserker, while the other was Fated Fern, a Level 135 female Oracle.

"What do you think, Brother Black Flame?" Lionheart asked when he saw Shi Feng enter the room. Pointing at the gathered Skyflare members, he chuckled and said, "These are the elites of Skyflare. Are they to your satisfaction?"

“They are indeed excellent.” Shi Feng nodded in agreement as he scanned the crowd before him. Smiling, he asked, “Is this the surprise you told me about, Commander Lionheart?”

Setting aside the five Tier 4 experts, just the 100-plus Tier 3 experts present already represented astonishing combat power. Many of these Tier 3 experts sported Epic items, with some even boasting Fragmented Legendary items. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that the total number of Fragmented Legendary items that Skyflare had exceeded that of any individual superpower operating in the modern era.

With such a well-equipped team at his command, Lionheart indeed had the qualifications to be proud.

“Of course not.” Lionheart smiled, shaking his head. He then took out an ancient crystal from his bag and asked, “What do you think this is?”

After a casual glance at the crystal, Shi Feng immediately revealed a look of surprise on his face.

“A Tier 5 Sealing Crystal!” Shi Feng couldn't help doubting his eyes as he took in the dark-gray crystal in Lionheart's hand.

Tier 5 Magic Scrolls were incredibly rare in God's Domain because Tier 5 Skills and Spells possessed astonishing power. The requirement for sealing them in a Magic Scroll was incredibly high. Moreover, even if one successfully stored a Tier 5 Skill, one would be fortunate if the resulting Magic Scroll could exhibit half of the Skill's original power.

A Sealing Crystal, on the other hand, could perfectly seal Skills and Spells at the Tier 4 standard or above. Moreover, although Sealing Crystals were one-time-use items, they did not impose any usage requirements. Players could freely use the stored Skill or Spell at 100% potential.

Meanwhile, the darker the color of a Sealing Crystal, the stronger the Skill or Spell stored inside. Since Lionheart's Sealing Crystal was dark gray, the sealed Skill or Spell was at the Tier 5 standard at the very minimum.

"That's right. This is indeed a Tier 5 Sealing Crystal," Lionheart said with a faint smile. "We got lucky and came across a visiting high noble from another city. After helping him complete an incredibly difficult quest, we were able to purchase this Tier 5 Sealing Crystal from him. "I believe that with this Tier 5 Sealing Crystal, our operation will proceed much more smoothly."

"Indeed. If the Skill or Spell sealed inside is sufficiently powerful, it might be enough to land a heavy blow on the Infant Dragon," Shi Feng said, nodding. While it was true that an unrestrained Tier 4 Infant Dragon was on par with Tier 5 monsters, that was true only for the average Tier 5 monster. A Tier 4 Infant Dragon still couldn't stop Tier 5 Skills and Spells that were above average in power. Hence, this Tier 5 Sealing Crystal could indeed serve as a trump card in the upcoming raid.

"Skyflare will assist you with everything it has this time, Brother Black Flame. I have gathered all of Skyflare's top experts. We have a total of 124 people, five of whom are at Tier 4. We have also finished distributing the teams. For the following operation, we will all listen to your command, Brother Black Flame," Lionheart said proudly. "If you have anyone you wish to include in the team, you can freely make adjustments to the team, as well."

"I really have to thank you for this, Commander Lionheart," Shi Feng said gratefully."

While he was somewhat confident of dealing with the Tier 4 Infant Dragon, he had never actually killed an unrestrained Tier 4 Infant Dragon. Hence, it wouldn't be strange if their team suffered annihilation.

For the Skyflare adventurer team to give him its full support for such a risky operation required a lot of courage and determination.

“Nonsense. We are only helping each other, Brother Black Flame. If this operation succeeds, Skyflare will also greatly benefit from it, so how can we not give it our all?” Lionheart said. “If there are no problems on your side, we can take action at any time.”

Lionheart understood that their operation this time carried great risks. However, he had decided to go through with it not because he was betting on the low odds of success but to tie Shi Feng to his boat.

Both the Crystal of Souls and Soul Water were of considerable help to players in completing their Tier 4 Promotion Quest. One example of this was Crimson Billow, who had failed her Promotion Quest before. After using a Crystal of Souls, she had completed her Promotion Quest on the second attempt.

In fact, even Blood Blade and Fated Fern had mentioned that without the help of the Crystal of Souls and Soul Water, they would’ve most likely failed their promotions.

Hence, Lionheart began placing even greater importance on the Crystal of Souls and Soul Water. Meanwhile, if he wished to secure a stable supply of these two items, he had to befriend Shi Feng.

As for the Infant Dragon raid itself, Lionheart didn’t really care whether it succeeded or failed. So long as he could tie Shi Feng to his side, he would make a profit.

“There’s no problem on my side. However, we’ll need to reorganize the composition of your team, as I am going to add three people,” Shi Feng said.

“Three people?” Lionheart looked reflexively at the three people standing behind Shi Feng.

At this time, the three people behind Shi Feng had concealed their auras and information using Black Cloaks. However, based on the appearances they revealed, Lionheart recognized one of them as Yu Luo,

whom he had met at the Auction House previously. As for the two other people, they should be part of the group that entered Meteorite City with Shi Feng.

What surprised Lionheart was that Shi Feng was actually bringing only three people for the operation.

After all, they were going to raid an Infant Dragon, a creature known to be invincible against opponents of the same tier. Let alone a team of 100-plus Tier 3 experts, even an army of 10,000 Tier 3 experts might not be enough to defeat the Infant Dragon.

Yet, Shi Feng was planning to bring only three people to the raid.

“Mhm. This is my first time visiting Meteorite City,” Shi Feng said, nodding. “Sorry for the poor display, Commander Lionheart.”

“Nonsense. Since you wish to adjust the team, we naturally don’t have a problem with it, Brother Black Flame,” Lionheart said, shaking his head. He then invited Shi Feng to the team and passed the team leader’s authority to Shi

Feng.

Afterward, Shi Feng inspected the team’s statistics and assigned Skyflare’s five Tier 5 players to one squadron. As for the Tier 3 players, he divided them across six squadrons, with one squadron having 12 healers and the other five having none.

Upon seeing Shi Feng’s team distribution, Skyflare’s members were inevitably confused. If their squadrons did not possess a single healer, what would they do when they got damaged?

While healers could heal players belonging to different squadrons, placing all of the team's healers in a separate squadron would definitely lower their healing efficiency. Due to positioning issues, the healers wouldn't be able to react immediately if players from other squadrons received damage.

However, what Skyflare's members didn't know was that Shi Feng had never thought about the team's Tier 3 players taking damage and losing HP.

After all, if a Tier 3 player got hit by a Tier 4 Infant Dragon, even if it were just a scratch, the player would die without question. There was no need for a healer at all.

"Everyone in the healer squadron must prepare at least 20 Master Mana Recovery Potions and 20 Master Steel Potions. If you don't have enough, you can go buy them now. I'll pay for them," Shi Feng said as he looked at the 12 Tier 3 healers.

At Shi Feng's words, everyone present gasped.

A Master Mana Recovery Potion could not only instantly restore a player's Mana to full but also increase a player's Mana recovery speed by 150% for three minutes. With 20 Master Mana Recovery Potions, a healer could last through a battle involving hundreds of thousands of players.

A Master Steel Potion was even more extraordinary. At this stage of the game, it was considered a divine lifesaving potion.

When players consumed the potion, not only would their Defense increase by 300%, but their maximum HP would also increase by 1,000%. Although the potion only had a 15-second duration, its Cooldown was only 60 seconds.

If every healer carried 20 Master Steel Potions with them, they would practically be immortal healers, so long as their potion stock lasted.

“Oh, I almost forgot. Every healer must also carry at least five Magic Scrolls holding Tier 3 Defensive Curses. It would be even better if you have a Tier 4 Defensive Magic Scroll,” Shi Feng added.

“This...” Lionheart felt a little awkward when he heard Shi Feng’s words. “Brother Black Flame, I don’t think there are even 20 or 30 Magic Scrolls holding Tier 3 Defensive Curses. I’m afraid it’ll be impossible to supply every healer with five.”

“Is that so?” After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng said, “If that’s the case, have everyone bring at least one.”

Afterward, Shi Feng spent the next half an hour reorganizing and reoutfitting the team until he was satisfied.

“This should be enough.” Looking at the items the team members carried, Shi Feng nodded and said, “Next, we can start making our way over to the Dragon.”

“Okay!” Lionheart revealed a bright smile when he heard Shi Feng’s words. He then turned to Wind Chaser and said, “Chaser, go make the necessary preparations quickly.”

“Understood!” Wind Chaser nodded, aware of Lionheart’s intentions. Their purpose in assisting Shi Feng this time wasn’t to raid the Tier 4 Infant Dragon but to rope him to their side, as well as show him the power of the Skyflare adventurer team.

“Preparations? Aren’t we setting off right away?” Shi Feng asked strangely. “Brother Black Flame, you might not be aware of this, but that Infant Dragon’s location is far from Meteorite City. Even if we travel on Mounts, it’ll take us around three days to arrive,” Lionheart said. “Hence, for the sake of this operation, I contacted the city’s high nobles a few days ago to borrow some Flying Mounts from them.”

“You’ll rent Flying Mounts?” Shi Feng was a little surprised. He never thought that Lionheart would help him to such an extent.

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The Ghostfire Hills where the Infant Dragon had its lair was indeed distant. Even the shortest route there would require them to cross nearly 30 leveling maps, including some Level 140 to Level 150 maps along the way. Hence, reaching the Infant Dragon wouldn’t be an easy task. In addition, Flying Mounts were exceedingly rare in the ancient God’s Domain, for some reason. They were so rare that no player in Meteorite City had gotten their hands on a Flying Mount even now. Hence, players who wished to travel across long distances quickly would have to rent Flying Mounts from the city’s high nobles.

However, to do so, one would first have to raise their Favorability with a high noble to the level of Respect. Meanwhile, in Meteorite City, the players eligible to rent a Flying Mount numbered no more than ten. Moreover, the rental cost was a whopping 5,000 Magic Crystals per day.

Most importantly, players could rent Flying Mounts only ten times per month at most. Hence, the city’s player forces would normally choose to rent Flying Mounts only for urgent matters.

With so many people participating in the operation this time, Skyflare would have to rent at least seven Flying Mounts. In other words, Skyflare would use up seven of its monthly rental opportunities.

“That’s right. With the Flying Mounts, we’ll need only half a day to reach the Ghostfire Hills,” Lionheart said delightedly.

In the entire Meteorite City, he was most likely the only person who would dare make such a generous move.

However, Shi Feng shook his head in response and said calmly, “There’s no need to rent Flying Mounts from those high nobles. You’ll be wasting your rental opportunities. We can just fly there right away.” “Fly there right away?” Lionheart parroted Shi Feng’s words in confusion. “Mhm.” Shi Feng nodded. Smiling, he said, “I have a Flying tool, so we can fly there right away. There’s no need for you to trouble yourself.”

After saying so, Shi Feng led Lionheart and the others to the Skyflare Hotel’s rooftop.

Skyflare’s bewildered members followed after Shi Feng, trying to figure out what kind of means Shi Feng had that could fly their whole team to the Ghostfire Hills. After all, their team had over 120 people. It would take seven Flying Mounts just to transport their whole team simultaneously.

However, as Skyflare’s executives were whispering among themselves, Shi Feng opened the lid of a pouch hanging at his waist. The next moment, a metallic behemoth over 100 meters in length emerged from the pouch, thoroughly blocking out the sky above everyone.

Chapter 2787 – Unfathomable Black Flame

“A Flying Ship?!” “How is this possible?!”

Skyflare’s members gaped in shock as they looked at the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship in the sky, unable to get their minds around this scenario.

“This must be an illusion!” Blood Blade declared, his eyes filled with disbelief. “This must be fake! How can a Flying Ship appear in the hands of a player?”

In an era where players didn’t possess even Flying Mounts, a Flying Ship was basically an item of legends. In fact, he had only ever seen Flying Ships mentioned in books before. Not a single Flying Ship had ever appeared even in a trade city like Meteorite City. According to rumors, only the Holy City’s patrol guards had Flying Ships, which they would use when they patrolled the human territories of God’s Domain. Flying Ships simply weren’t objects players could get their hands on.

At this moment, let alone Blood Blade, even Lionheart was stunned when he saw the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship.

As for Crimson Billow and Wind Chaser, after briefly falling into shock, they turned reflexively to look at Shi Feng.

Who is this Black Flame?

This question continuously resounded in their minds.

They had conducted plenty of investigations into Shi Feng and his entourage. After all, they were planning a long-term partnership with him, so they had to gain some understanding of him.

Only, the more they looked into Shi Feng, the more they found him unfathomable. They simply couldn't see through his depths.

Initially, they merely assumed Shi Feng was a Tier 4 expert from another NPC city. However, after they saw the effects of the Crystal of Souls and Soul Water he took out, they knew that they were definitely mistaken. After all, none of the neighboring NPC cities offered such items.

From then onward, they felt that Shi Feng was someone extraordinary, potentially the executive of a major power from a distant NPC city. Otherwise, he couldn't have casually taken out such precious items. Not to mention, he also possessed incredible strength as an individual.

This was one of the reasons their commander, Lionheart, wished to display Skyflare's strength to Shi Feng and rope him to their side. After all, partnering with a major power of such caliber would be of great benefit to the Skyflare adventurer team.

Now, Shi Feng even brought out a legendary item like the Flying Ship. They simply couldn't figure out his identity.

At this point, the Skyflare adventurer team practically had exclusive ownership of Meteorite City already. Although Skyflare still wasn't comparable to large Guilds that occupied several cities, it could already be considered an overlord in God's Domain.

Even if Skyflare was still inferior to the various top Guilds, the distance between them definitely wasn't that massive.

When Yu Luo saw the reactions of Skyflare's members, she wasn't particularly surprised.

After all, back when Shi Feng first revealed the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship in the modern God's Domain, he had similarly shocked the entire world.

"Alright, let's head up," Shi Feng said before nonchalantly jumping onto the Flying Ship. The Crimson Dragon Flying Ship was an Advanced Flying Ship capable of carrying up to 130 people—just enough to accommodate everyone present. At Shi Feng's words, Skyflare's members promptly snapped out of their daze. They then silently boarded the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship while doing their best to suppress the excitement and shock in their hearts, afraid of appearing like provincials to Shi Feng's group.

Despite their best efforts, their suppressed emotions instantly exploded as soon as they arrived on the Flying Ship's deck.

After all, the feeling of overlooking Meteorite City while standing aboard the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship was simply wonderful.

Just the fact that the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship was parked in the air above Meteorite City instantly made it the most eye-catching existence in the city.

At this time, players and NPCs on the streets were gazing at the Flying Ship, their eyes wide with shock and envy. They also held heated discussions, curious about why a Flying Ship would appear above the Skyflare Hotel all of a sudden. The players, in particular, went into an uproar when they saw Skyflare's members aboard the Flying Ship.

However, before Meteorite City's players could come to any conclusions, the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship began gradually ascending into the sky. Afterward, it transformed into a streak of light and vanished from Meteorite City, even faster than the Flying Mounts available for rent.

"How fast! At this speed, we can probably reach the Ghostfire Hills in around a dozen hours," Lionheart exclaimed. He was astonished to see Meteorite City rapidly shrinking behind him.

He had ridden Flying Mounts before. However, compared to the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship, those Flying Mounts were significantly slower.

"The Crimson Dragon Flying Ship is still alright in terms of speed," Shi Feng said calmly. "However, while it is indeed slightly faster than Common Flying Mounts, it is still much slower than Tier 3 Advanced Extraordinary Flying Mounts. In terms of destructive power, though, it is comparable to Tier 4 Advanced Extraordinary Flying Mounts."

Although Shi Feng had spoken very calmly, Lionheart and the others paid close attention to his every word, afraid that they would miss out on even the tiniest bit of information. "Brother Black Flame, you must've spent a lot of Magic Crystals to secure this Crimson Dragon Flying Ship, right?" Lionheart asked after giving the matter some thought.

The Flying Ship he was standing on was simply too cool. From Shi Feng's description of it, it was basically a tyrant of the skies. Anyone who said they weren't interested in the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship would be lying.

"Quite a lot. Even now, my Guild has only managed to produce nine," Shi Feng said, nodding

Most of the materials the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship needed were relatively common. However, it was a different story for the Titan Silver and Magic Elven Stones required, especially the Magic Elven Stones. Despite having bought out all of the Magic Elven Stones on the market, Zero Wing had managed to construct only nine Crimson Dragon Flying Ships until now.

“Nine?” Lionheart nearly failed to close his mouth.

In his opinion, a Guild would be plenty amazing to be able to procure even one of such sky tyrants. Yet, Shi Feng’s Guild had nine?

“Are you interested in the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship, Commander Lionheart?” Shi Feng couldn’t help chuckling at Lionheart’s astonished expression.

“I would be lying if I said I wasn’t interested in such a treasure.” While scanning the Flying Ship’s deck, Lionheart said enviously, “If Skyflare could have a Flying Ship like this, let alone occupying multiple NPC Main Cities, even going up against the top Guilds wouldn’t be a problem.”

The Crimson Dragon Flying Ship’s combat power might not be a big deal for Skyflare now that the adventurer team had five Tier 4 players, but the Flying Ship’s carrying capacity and speed were simply astonishing.

With this Flying Ship, Skyflare’s teams would no longer have a problem leveling up. They could travel to anywhere they wished. Skyflare could even use the Flying Ship to ferry resources between cities and earn a ton of Magic Crystals.

It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that the existence of just one Flying Ship could allow Skyflare to undergo a qualitative transformation.

Skyflare's executives nodded in agreement with Lionheart's words.

It would be wonderful if their adventurer team could get their hands on a treasure like the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship. In fact, even if Skyflare gained an additional dozen or so Tier 4 players, the value these Tier 4 players could bring wouldn't even be close to what one Flying Ship could bring.

A faint smile appeared on Shi Feng's face as he said, "Commander Lionheart, since you are so interested in the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship, I can sell one to the Skyflare adventurer team." The instant Shi Feng finished speaking, every one of Skyflare's members turned to him involuntarily. Shi Feng's words were a siren song; they couldn't help getting ensnared. Lionheart's breathing also quickened at Shi Feng's words as he sought confirmation. "Brother Black Flame, is what you said true?" "Of course, but it won't be cheap," Shi Feng said, nodding. In reality, part of the reason he had taken the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship out was to display it to Skyflare's members and lure the adventurer team into buying it.

As soon as Shi Feng finished speaking, Lionheart answered with no hesitation whatsoever. "Brother Black Flame, please state your price! So long as you are willing to sell this Crimson Dragon Flying Ship, Skyflare will do everything it can to buy it!"

Chapter 2788 – Illusory Flames

While Lionheart agreed enthusiastically to Shi Feng's offer, Yu Luo looked at Shi Feng in surprise. She never thought that Shi Feng would actually be willing to sell the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship. In the modern God's Domain, Zero Wing was the sole Guild to own Flying Ships. Many superpowers wished to purchase one from Zero Wing, yet Zero Wing had rejected all offers. Of course, everyone could also understand that decision. After all, Zero Wing could reap more advantages by monopolizing the Flying Ship than selling it.

If news got out that Shi Feng was selling a Crimson Dragon Flying Ship to the Skyflare adventurer team, the various superpowers operating in the modern era would definitely die of envy.

However, what Yu Luo wasn't aware of was that Shi Feng had decided to sell Skyflare a Flying Ship because matters of the ancient era wouldn't influence the modern era.

It was challenging for players of the modern era to visit the ancient era. And even if they managed to travel to the ancient era by luck, they wouldn't be able to stay for long. The number of players that could travel to the ancient era wouldn't be significant, either. Likewise, the ancient era's players would have a tough time visiting the modern era. It was unlikely for the two worlds to have any major interaction with each other at this point.

To put it simply, even if he sold a Crimson Dragon Flying Ship to the Skyflare adventurer team, Skyflare wouldn't affect Zero Wing's advantages in the modern era. Hence, he could trade some precious items to Skyflare without worry.

Moreover, if Skyflare grew stronger in the ancient era, the adventurer team would also have an easier time collecting the ancient era's various resources for him.

After all, he had neither the time nor the strength to establish his own force in the ancient era. In that case, relying on the local powers to secure resources was the next best option.

Most importantly, the fewer the people that knew of the secret between the two worlds, the better. Otherwise, be it in the ancient God's Domain or modern God's Domain, he shouldn't think of living a peaceful life.

"Commander Lionheart, if you wish to purchase the Flying Ship, it will cost you 10,000 Titan Silver ingots, 1,000 Magic Elven Stones, and 1,000 Seven Luminaries Crystals," Shi Feng stated his price directly. For the time being, he could already secure more than enough Magic Crystals through

exchanging the Crystals of Souls and Soul Water. Compared to Magic Crystals, he prioritized obtaining materials that were rare in the modern God's Domain and Seven Luminaries Crystals.

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Moreover, trying to obtain these rare materials with the Crystal of Souls and Soul Water would be difficult since Crystals of Souls and Soul Water were nonessentials. After all, they merely increased players' chances of completing their Tier 4 Promotion Quest by a little.

More precisely, the Crystal of Souls and Soul Water merely helped players complete their Tier 4 Promotion Quests ahead of time. In the case of players who never had a chance to complete their Tier 4 Promotion Quest to begin with, the items would be useless. This point was something anyone who had used the two items would know.

Hence, while the various powers could accept using Magic Crystals, which were abundant, to exchange for Crystals of Souls and Soul Water, they would think twice if the requested currency was a strategic or rare material. After all, collecting these materials wasn't an easy task, and they were necessary for many applications. These materials basically served as the foundation of the various powers. "That much?" Lionheart frowned automatically when he heard Shi Feng's price.

Although he had known that the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship wouldn't be cheap, he never expected such a steep price.

Titan Silver and Magic Elven Stone were precious resources essential to the construction of many buildings and the production of important items. As for the Seven Luminaries Crystal, it was something all players and powers coveted.

The Skyflare adventurer team had gone to great lengths and sacrificed many experts to occupy a small area that generated Seven Luminaries Crystals. Moreover, Skyflare still had to station over a thousand Tier 3 experts there to guard the area at all times.

Meanwhile, the price of 1,000 Seven Luminaries Crystals would basically zero out Skyflare's stockpile. Upon seeing Lionheart's reaction, Shi Feng said unhurriedly, "Of course, this is only the first option, Commander Lionheart. You can also consider going with the second option, which is to let me invest in Skyflare and give me 5% of Skyflare's income in the future." "Five percent?" Lionheart pondered Shi Feng's offer carefully.

Honestly speaking, 5% of the current Skyflare adventurer team's income wasn't a significant amount. However, the story would change when Skyflare grew stronger. In the long run, the income Skyflare lost would definitely far exceed the price of Shi Feng's first offer.

"Commander, my suggestion is to go with the first option," Wind Chaser whispered as he looked at Lionheart agonizing over Shi Feng's offer. "Although we'll be broke for some time after buying the Flying Ship, Skyflare's value will far exceed those resources in the future."

Now that Skyflare already had five Tier 4 players, its future was promising. Giving away part of its income for just one Flying Ship was unnecessary. The other Skyflare executives also looked toward Lionheart, their eyes clearly conveying agreement with Wind Chaser.

Taking a deep breath, Lionheart looked at Shi Feng and said, "Brother Black Flame, I chose the first trading option. Once this operation is over, we can conduct the transaction in Meteorite City. However, the amount of materials you need is too significant.

"While we have enough Seven Luminaries Crystals, I can't say the same for the Titan Silver and Magic Elven Stones. I don't think we can meet your demands even if we take out Meteorite City's stockpile. We can, at most, fulfill 50% of your required amount. May I know if we can make up for the remaining amount using 100 top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment?"

“This...” After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng said, “That’s fine as well, but I will accept only Level 150 Epic Weapons and Equipment.”

In Meteorite City, the total value of 5,000 Titan Silver ingots and 500 Magic Elven Stones was equivalent to 80 top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment, at most. Moreover, acquiring so many top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment wouldn’t necessarily be possible. After all, while many NPC merchants in the ancient God’s Domain sold Epic Weapons and Equipment, there was still a limit.

This was especially true for top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment. Their rarity in the ancient era was not the slightest bit lower than in the modern era.

Often, acquiring these items meant raiding Mythic Bosses and even Superior Mythic Bosses. Bosses of such caliber were incredibly limited, and one would be fortunate to find even 20 of such Bosses within Meteorite City’s vicinity each week. Moreover, even if Skyflare now had many Tier 4 experts, raiding Superior Mythic Bosses still carried great risks.

Lionheart’s offer of 100 top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment to make up for the difference was definitely favorable for Shi Feng.

Shi Feng understood Lionheart’s reason for doing so. In fact, if he were in Lionheart’s shoes, he would go with such an option too. After all, the risks that came with giving away Skyflare’s shares were massive.

However, Shi Feng didn’t really mind Lionheart’s choice, either, since his initial goal was to obtain a large amount of Titan Silver, Magic Elven Stones, and Seven Luminaries Crystals. The second option wasn’t actually a good option for him. After all, the number of times he could enter the ancient God’s Domain was limited. For Zero Wing, which was currently in dire need of resources, such a long-term investment wasn’t desirable.

This outcome was undoubtedly the best for Shi Feng. Moreover, exchanging half of the required Titan Silver and Magic Elven Stones into top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment was also a good deal for him. After all, the current Zero Wing hardly had any Level 150 Epic Weapons and Equipment.

With these top-tier Epic Weapons and Equipment, Zero Wing's executives would also have an easier time completing their Tier 4 Promotion Quests.

"That won't be a problem." Lionheart nodded. Simultaneously, he revealed a bitter smile.

For the sake of purchasing one Crimson Dragon Flying Ship, he had basically emptied out Skyflare's coffers. After this transaction, Skyflare would severely lack for not only Magic Crystals and various strategic resources but also weapons and equipment.

However, despite knowing this, all of Skyflare's executives revealed ecstatic expressions on their faces. They also continuously admired and inspected the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship. It was as if they could already imagine the beautiful future that awaited Skyflare once they obtained the Flying Ship.

The Crimson Dragon Flying Ship flew for a dozen hours or so. After passing through numerous large maps, it finally arrived at a dusky land. Despite flames burning everywhere, this land was heavily forested.

As soon as everyone entered this map, they immediately felt their Stamina and Concentration depleting.

In response, Crimson Billow drank a Fire Resistance Potion. However, she still sensed her Stamina and Concentration decreasing gradually and couldn't help feeling a little surprised. "Fire Resistance has no effect on the flames here. At this rate, I'm afraid we'll run out of Stamina and die if we stay here for more than a dozen hours."

Normally, an increase in a person's Fire Resistance would allow them to counter all debuffs from fire. However, her increased Fire Resistance was actually useless here. This situation was simply unprecedented.

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"It seems that we'll have to move quickly." While sensing the changes in his own body, Wind Chaser said, "Otherwise, we'll probably be annihilated before we can kill that Tier 4 Infant Dragon."

Nodding, Shi Feng promptly commanded, "All Tier 3s will remain on the Flying Ship, while Tier 4s spread out and search for the Infant Dragon. Once you locate the Infant Dragon, report back immediately!"

As soon as Shi Feng finished speaking, Skyflare's five Tier 4 players promptly floated up, ready to start looking for the Tier 4 Infant Dragon.

Meanwhile, Lifeless Thorn, Solitary Nine, and Yu Luo, who had been concealing their auras with their Black Cloaks all this time, also gradually rose into the air, the sight attracting the attention of Skyflare's executives.

"They're Tier 4s too?" Crimson Billow was shocked as she looked at Lifeless Thorn's group of three.

Although Shi Feng had already surprised her plenty of times, she still found it astonishing that the three players who had tagged along with Shi Feng were also Tier 4 players.

After all, Tier 4 players were still rare in the entire God's Domain. On average, a Main City would only have one or two Tier 4 players. Yet, it was revealed that not only Shi Feng but even the people following him were Tier 4 players.

Since when were Tier 4 players as common as cabbages? "It seems Black Flame has far more secrets than we think. Fortunately, we chose to partner with him. I really don't want to imagine what would have happened had we chosen to make an enemy out of him," Wind Chaser said, smiling bitterly.

Yu Luo aside, Lifeless Thorn and Solitary Nine were part of the group that entered Meteorite City with Shi Feng. Now that three out of the group of five were confirmed to be Tier 4 players, it wouldn't be strange that the other two players were hidden Tier 4s as well.

To think that we were actually planning to use force if negotiations failed... In retrospect, Wind Chaser found their thoughts laughable.

Subsequently, after Shi Feng's group of nine searched for about half an hour, Crimson Billow's voice suddenly appeared in the team chat.

"I found the Infant Dragon! It's resting inside a cave in the southwest valley!"

Chapter 2789 – Dragon's Might

In a cave on the southwestern side of the Ghostfire Hills...

After Crimson Billow sent the Infant Dragon's coordinates, Shi Feng had quickly gathered everyone. Now, all 128 members of the team were sneaking deeper into the cave.

"The flames seem to be getting stronger and stronger," Yu Luo said worriedly when she sensed her Stamina and Concentration depleting at a quicker rate. "Moreover, the burning sensation is also growing stronger, the deeper we go. At this rate, I'm afraid the burning sensation will grow so strong that we won't be able to focus during the battle."

"Indeed. The burning sensation here is getting worse." Wind Chaser nodded in agreement. "Under this burning sensation, I'm afraid ordinary Refinement Realm experts won't be able to exhibit combat standards at the Refinement Realm."

Previously, the illusory flames merely ate at his Stamina and Concentration. However, he now felt as if his whole body was scorching. Although the pain was subtle, it would still impact the performance of people with weak minds.

Combat techniques, Skills, and Spells required precision control. Even a slight deviation could result in a massive difference in the combat power one could exhibit.

After observing the environment, Lionheart suggested to Shi Feng, "Brother Black Flame, this cave is indeed extraordinary. I think our best option is to take the fight out of the cave. Otherwise, we'll have difficulty exerting our strength."

"I'm afraid that won't do." Shaking his head, Shi Feng said with certainty, "We must finish the Infant Dragon in this cave. Moreover, this is most likely our only chance. Outside this cave, we'll have trouble even touching the Infant Dragon."

Dragons were the rulers of the sky. On paper, fighting the Infant Dragon outside the cave might seem to be to their team's advantage. However, doing so would actually place their team at a disadvantage. This was especially true for the team's Tier 3 players. Without the help of special Skills, Tier 3 players couldn't

fly by themselves. Hence, if they fought the Infant Dragon outside, the team's Tier 3 members would get sidelined.

As for utilizing the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship to fight the Infant Dragon, that was simply a joke.

Against a Tier 4 Infant Dragon, even an Advanced Flying Ship wouldn't last more than three or four hits. In fact, it wouldn't be strange if the Crimson Dragon Flying Ship fell after just one attack. After all, the Flying Ship was merely capable of withstanding the attacks of ordinary Tier 4 Mythic monsters. Its defenses would crumble instantly before a Tier 5 attack.

Shortly afterward, Shi Feng and the others came across Crimson Billow, hiding underneath a rock.

At present, though, Crimson Billow had a wilted expression on her face.

"What happened?" Lionheart asked strangely when he saw Crimson Billow's condition.

"It's nothing." Shaking her head, Crimson Billow smiled bitterly and said, "I'm just wondering whether we can really win against that Infant Dragon."

"Although it is an Infant Dragon, our team isn't a pushover, either. How would we know we can't win if we don't give it a try?" Blood Blade said confidently as he looked at Crimson Billow's defeated expression. "Don't forget that we have nine Tier 4 players this time. That Infant Dragon is also only at Tier 4."

However, after Blood Blade finished speaking, the cavern at the end of the road appeared in front of everyone. And a creature with a pale golden body over 100 meters long entered their sight.

[Infant Golden Dragon) (Dragon, Mythic)

Level 140

HP 112,000,000,000

“How is this possible?!”

Everyone gasped involuntarily when they saw the Infant Dragon’s statistics. Even Lifeless Thorn and Solitary Nine, who had seen a Half-step Demon King before, were astonished.

The Infant Golden Dragon’s stifling aura aside, just its HP of 112 billion was already plenty mind-boggling

With 112 billion HP, the Infant Dragon would recover 2.24 billion HP every five seconds, or roughly 400 million HP every second. Even assuming each of their Tier 4 players could cause 50 million damage per second, after excluding the two Tier 4 healers, they could deal only around 350 million damage per second with the remaining seven Tier 4 players. Moreover, this was all under the premise that the Infant Dragon didn’t possess a powerful Defense and wouldn’t put up any resistance.

Not to mention, the Infant Dragon before them was part of the Golden Dragon tribe. Its Bloodline was of a much higher purity than ordinary Dragons’. Among the Dragon race, the Golden Dragons’ Bloodline was second only to Divine Dragons. “It’s no wonder they say Dragons are invincible among existences of the same tier. With such HP, even if we can survive this Infant Dragon’s attacks, I doubt we can actually kill it.” Wind Chaser couldn’t help feeling shaken.

Although HP wasn't everything, it could still provide an intuitive gauge of an existence's general strength.

With how much HP the Infant Dragon possessed, it was easy to imagine how terrifying its Basic Attributes were. They were definitely at least two or three times higher than those of the average Superior Mythic monster of the same level.

What did that mean?

With an attack from a Superior Mythic monster of the same level, a Tier 4 player would still receive significant damage even if they merely defended themselves. However, if a Tier 4 player tried defending against one of the Infant Golden Dragon's attacks, they would be fortunate to retain a scrap of HP to keep themselves alive. If they were unlucky, they would be one-shotted.

In other words, if their team wished to fight the Infant Golden Dragon, they couldn't allow even a graze from it. Otherwise, lives would be lost.

At this moment, Lionheart and the other Skyflare executives finally understood why Shi Feng didn't assign healers to any of the Tier 3 combat squadrons.

After all, Tier 3 players would be no different from ants in the upcoming battle. They were insignificant existences that would disappear upon coming into contact with even the slightest shockwave. Hence, there was naturally no need to assign healers to them.

An Infant Golden Dragon? Shi Feng also smiled bitterly when he saw the mountain-like Dragon before him. No wonder this quest was evaluated at the Inferior Mythic rank.

This Tier 4 Infant Golden Dragon's combat power reached the Tier 5 Intermediate rank. Even Frobero in his heyday wouldn't be a match for this Infant Dragon. In other words, the Infant Dragon simply wasn't an existence Tier 4 players could hope to confront.

Possibly, only Tier 4 experts wielding Legendary Weapons and geared in Legendary Equipment could hope to defeat the Infant Golden Dragon. Otherwise, the best option for players coming across this Infant Dragon was to obey their instincts and flee immediately. "Brother Black Flame." At this time, Lionheart couldn't help but look at Shi Feng and shake his head. "Although I don't want to say it, I'm afraid there really is no hope of killing this Infant Golden Dragon."

After seeing the Infant Golden Dragon for himself, he finally understood that the records in books weren't entirely trustworthy. After all, the Infant Dragon before him was many times more terrifying than what was described in the library books he read. It simply wasn't an existence Tier 4 players could hope to fight.

At the very least, it is absolutely impossible for their present selves. Most likely, only Tier 4 NPCs would have a glimmer of hope. "No, that's not necessarily true," Shi Feng said, shaking his head. A hint of determination appearing in his eyes, he continued, "We're not exactly out of options. It's just that we'll need to gamble."

Killing this Tier 4 Infant Golden Dragon was imperative. However, it wasn't just for the sake of completing his Inferior Mythic Quest, but because he couldn't continue staying in the ancient God's Domain.

After all, his initial goal in visiting the Earthfall Secret Land was simply to acquire the necessary resources for constructing the Small Mobile Fortress.

Now that he had achieved his goal, he couldn't remain here, as there were still many things he needed to attend to in the modern God's Domain.

Meanwhile, killing the Infant Dragon before him was his best chance to attract the world's attention and get the world to banish him from the ancient God's Domain.

"Gamble?" Lionheart was slightly surprised by Shi Feng's words. He simply couldn't see how they could possibly defeat the Infant Dragon before them.

"I will start chanting an incantation in a moment, and it will most likely cause quite a commotion. So, I will need you to erect a magic barrier now to prevent the Infant Dragon from noticing it," Shi Feng said, taking a deep breath. "As for the subsequent battle, I will need you, Commander Lionheart, to act as support. Both Yu Luo and Fated Fern will be tasked with healing you. Nine, you'll protect the healer squadron. As for the healer squadron, use everything you have to heal my summoned creature. Do not stop for even a moment."

"Summoned creature?"

Lionheart and the others were confused by Shi Feng's words. They found it hard to imagine that any summoned creature could stop the Infant Golden Dragon for even a moment. Despite their doubts, everyone still obeyed Shi Feng's commands.

The next moment, over a hundred people each took out a Magic Array Scroll from their bags and instantly erected a barrier to isolate the tunnel from the cavern. With this magic barrier present, the Infant Golden Dragon wouldn't detect anything they did inside the barrier even if it was awake right now.

"Brother Black Flame, everything is ready! You can begin whenever you want!" Lionheart said. Looking at the Advanced Magic Array, he couldn't help feeling a little heartache. However, to avoid disturbing the Infant Golden Dragon, they had no choice but to use it.

Meanwhile, after Shi Feng personally verified that everything was set up correctly, he took out the Bible of Darkness and began chanting an incantation.

Originally, he had not planned to use the Bible of Darkness. After all, the cost of using it at Tier 4 was far too great. He estimated that after a few more uses, his soul would get devoured by the Power of Darkness.

However, if he wished to slay the Infant Golden Dragon now, he could only take the risk.

Immediately after Shi Feng began chanting, the Mana inside the barrier gave off a bone-chilling sensation—the complete opposite of the burning sensation it gave off previously.

Before anyone could react to the change, the barrier's interior suddenly went dark. Everyone could feel endless loneliness, coldness, and despair coming from the darkness around them. Standing in this dark environment didn't feel the slightest bit better than standing in the Infant Dragon's presence.

As Shi Feng continued incanting, the Infant Golden Dragon slumbering outside the barrier suddenly opened its eyes as if startled awake. Its massive eyes then looked directly at the barrier-enveloped tunnel vigilantly.

"How is this possible?!" Fated Fern, who was hosting the magic barrier, was stunned by this development.

The Advanced Magic Array they used, Spatial Wall, could thoroughly isolate an area from the outside world. Even if a large explosion went off inside the barrier, nobody in the outside world should be able to notice it.

Nonetheless, the Infant Dragon had clearly noticed them.

“What a despicable dark energy.” Looking at the empty tunnel before it, the Infant Golden Dragon bellowed, “It seems you humans have fallen as well! To think you would actually come seeking death together with a Demon!” The Infant Dragon’s bellow instantly extinguished the Advanced Magic Barrier like a storm blowing out a candle. Simultaneously, the figures of Shi Feng and the others appeared before the Infant Dragon. “Brother Black Flame?” Seeing that the Infant Dragon had already stood up, Lionheart raised his shield anxiously. He then sent a sidelong glance at Shi Feng and asked, “Are you still not done?”

The power of the Dragon before them far exceeded his expectations. Normally, even Mythic monsters couldn’t destroy the Spatial Wall so easily, yet the Infant Dragon had accomplished this feat with just one roar.

He simply didn’t dare imagine how powerful an actual attack from the Infant Dragon would be.

“I’m done! I made it just in time!” Shi Feng said, a smile appearing on his pale face. As soon as Shi Feng finished speaking, a dark void appeared in the cavern’s ceiling. A stone door even larger than the Infant Golden Dragon then fell out of this void. Before the players and Infant Dragon could react to this turn of events, the stone door gradually opened.

Chapter 2790 – Heaven-defying Battle

The Demon Gate inside the cavern opened. However, when the door was only partly open, a cold voice suddenly came from beyond it. Shi Feng’s group and the awakened Infant Golden Dragon shuddered involuntarily upon hearing this voice.

“A little golden lizard and a heaven-blessed individual... Wait, no, you’re not an existence of this world! Interesting! How interesting! Oh? The Bible of Darkness is actually damaged? Wonderful! This is truly wonderful!”

The demonic words that came out of the door echoed in everyone’s mind.

Although the voice spoke in a calm tone, the aura escaping the door paralyzed everyone momentarily. The Infant Golden Dragon glared at the door in fear.

A Tier 5 Demon King? Shi Feng was astonished when he sensed the frightening aura from the Demon Gate.

According to his expectations, he would already be fortunate if he could summon even a Demon Prince. After all, the Bible of Darkness had yet to reach its perfect state. However, the existence behind the Demon Gate was undoubtedly much stronger than a Demon Prince. In fact, none of the Tier 5 existences he had come across thus far had exuded such a powerful aura.

“This book isn’t suitable for a little guy like you. Give it to me! Only if it is in my hands can I truly descend onto this land!”

At the Demon King’s words, Shi Feng suddenly sensed his control over the Bible of Darkness waning, and the Bible actually started flying toward the Demon Gate.

Seeing this, Shi Feng couldn’t help being shocked. He never thought that a Demon could resist and manipulate the Bible of Darkness’s power. Hurriedly, he used all his strength to wrestle back control over the Bible of Darkness.

“Stop wasting your energy, little fellow. I will be taking this damaged Bible of Darkness. However, you can also rest assured. Once my clan and I thoroughly descend upon this world, I will make sure to spare you!” At these words, the Bible of Darkness struggled even harder to break free from Shi Feng’s grasp. In fact, his connection with the Bible of Darkness was even severed completely, and the only thing he could do now was hold on to the book with brute force.

“Despicable human, you actually dared summon that thing here!” the Infant Golden Dragon bellowed. Evidently, it had figured out the identity of the existence beyond the Demon Gate. “I will not let you succeed! Die!”

After letting out a roar, the Infant Dragon suddenly widened its mouth. Immediately afterward, a threefold magic array took shape before it. “Not good! It’s using Dragon Breath! Everyone, dodge quickly!” Shi Feng shouted, surprised by the Infant Dragon’s actions.

A Tier 4 Dragon Breath would undoubtedly carry power at the Tier 5 Intermediate-rank standard. Let alone Tier 3 players, even Tier 4 players would die if they faced it. The only way they could survive this attack was to dodge it!

However, the Infant Golden Dragon was simply too fast. Before anyone could react, the threefold magic array had already taken shape. The next moment, a destructive energy ball shot out of the Infant Dragon’s mouth, the energy ball’s speed and size making it impossible for anyone to avoid in time. Everyone could only watch as the Dragon Breath approached them.

“It’s over...” Lionheart reflexively closed his eyes when he saw the approaching Dragon Breath that destroyed everything in its path.

As for everyone else, they also revealed looks of despair and bitter smiles. Previously, they thought that they still stood a chance against the Infant Golden Dragon, albeit a small chance. However, after seeing

the destructive power the Dragon Breath carried, they realized that any form of resistance would be meaningless. The only thing they could do was wait for death.

However, just when the Dragon Breath was about to reach Shi Feng and the others, that cold voice came from the half-opened Demon Gate again.

“A little lizard thinks it can stop my descent?”

An illusory hand suddenly appeared out of thin air before Shi Feng’s team and caught the approaching energy ball. The giant hand then squeezed the energy ball, shattering it into countless dispersing particles of light.

“How is this possible?!”

Everyone was thunderstruck by this scene.

The Dragon Breath that carried such devastating power had actually been stopped so easily. They couldn’t even begin to imagine how powerful the Demon behind the Demon Gate was.

However, despite this sudden turn of events, Shi Feng’s complexion did not improve. On the contrary, it even turned gloomier instead.

Despite being only halfway summoned, the summoned Demon King could already exert enough strength to block a Tier 4 Dragon Breath casually. The Demon King’s strength was definitely at the Tier 5 Peak rank. This meant that the existence beyond the Demon Gate wasn’t just an ordinary Tier 5 Demon

King. It was a Tier 5 Great Demon King! If Shi Feng allowed a Great Demon King to descend onto God's Domain, even if it was the ancient God's Domain, it would still spell disaster for the entire continent.

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However, before Shi Feng and the others could recover from their surprise, the Infant Golden Dragon suddenly appeared above them. At this time, golden runes covered its body, and the aura it exuded was significantly stronger than before.

It can still become stronger? When Shi Feng looked at the Infant Golden Dragon in the air, he was genuinely shocked for the first time in a long while. After all, the Infant Golden Dragon was much stronger than he expected. Comparable to Tier 5 existences? What a joke. The aura and power the Infant Golden Dragon currently displayed had already more than doubled. It was definitely much stronger than ordinary Tier 5 existences. In fact, he doubted he could survive one attack from it even if he activated his Berserk Skill.

"Despicable Demon, you can't use your full strength while behind that door. I refuse to believe you can keep blocking my attacks! So long as your summoner dies, you will have to remain in that endless abyss forever!"

The Infant Golden Dragon glared at the Demon Gate, a hint of disdain and mockery in its eyes. It then opened its mouth and launched another Dragon Breath.

This Dragon Breath was much more terrifying than before. As soon as the Infant Dragon inhaled, Shi Feng and the others sensed the Mana within the cavern disappear completely. In addition, the Tier 3 players even had their Mana rapidly sucked from their bodies. And although the Tier 4 players managed to prevent their Mana from getting plundered, their ability to manipulate Mana was greatly hindered. Now, they couldn't even exhibit half of their usual combat power. "This is that Infant Dragon's true strength?" Blood Blade fell into despair as he looked at the massive figure in the air.

Seeing it now, he couldn't help but find their previous notion of challenging the Tier 4 Infant Dragon laughable.

The Infant Golden Dragon was much stronger than what its HP portrayed. It simply wasn't an existence Tier 4 players could hope to challenge.

This moment drove home to Shi Feng why the quest he received was of the Inferior Mythic rank. He also understood why humans capable of slaying Dragons were highly praised in God's Domain.

It would already be a miracle if a human could fight a Dragon of the same tier and level to a standstill, let alone kill one. This was especially true for Dragons that had reached Tier 4 or above. It wouldn't even be an exaggeration to refer to such a feat as a myth.

Roar!

Accompanied by a deafening roar, a dazzling energy sphere carrying devastating power descended toward the team.

"Little lizard, you have truly angered me now!"

The Infant Golden Dragon's efforts to prevent the Great Demon King beyond the Demon Gate from descending enraged him.

Suddenly, boundless Power of Darkness flooded out of the Demon Gate. A gigantic hand five times larger than the one before emerged from the ground. The hand was so massive that the Infant Dragon looked like a toy in comparison.

Boom!

Not only did the gigantic hand shatter the Dragon Breath instantly, but it even grabbed the Infant Dragon. And despite the Infant Dragon struggling desperately to break free, the giant hand remained unfazed as it smashed the Infant Dragon into the ground.

Boom!

A crater with a radius of 1,000 yards and a depth of 100 meters appeared on the cavern floor. Apart from the Tier 4 players and the Tier 3 healers, who had consumed Master Steel Potions, the other players in the cavern were instantly killed by the resulting shockwave.

Although Shi Feng and the Tier 4 players remained alive, they had lost over two-thirds of their HPs. As for the surviving healers, their HPs had also fallen to a critical level; they had very nearly lost their lives.

Meanwhile, after the dust in the vast cavern dissipated, the giant hand was nowhere in sight. The only thing in the crater was the Infant Golden Dragon. Presently, however, the Infant Dragon had both its wings broken, with blood flowing out from all over its body. Its life aura had also weakened significantly, and its HP had even fallen to just 63%. Given the Infant Dragon's current state, it was evident that the Great Demon King's attack had heavily injured it.

How strong! So, this is the strength of a Tier 5 Great Demon King? Shi Feng was dumbfounded by this outcome.

The Infant Golden Dragon had put its all into the last attack, and the attack's power had definitely reached the Tier 5 Advanced-rank standard. Yet, it still suffered a brutal beating. The difference in strength between the Infant Dragon and Great Demon King was clear for all to see.

In fact, if not for the Demon Gate severely dampening the Great Demon King's strength, the Infant Dragon would've most likely died from that one attack.

Meanwhile, after the Great Demon King executed this attack, his control over the Bible of Darkness had also weakened significantly. At the very least, Shi Feng could now sense a connection between him and the Bible of Darkness.

Shi Feng hurriedly canceled the summoning.

Previously, due to the severance of his connection with the Bible of Darkness, he couldn't stop the summoning even if he wanted to. However, now that he had recovered a small portion of control over the Bible of Darkness, he could cancel the summoning. As for the cost of forcibly canceling the summoning, he couldn't care less about it right now.

After all, if he allowed a Tier 5 Great Demon King to descend onto the continent, only death awaited him. Moreover, the cost of this death wouldn't just be a loss of one or two levels. Instead, his body might very well end up a puppet of the Great Demon King, and he would have no choice but to re-train a new account. Hence, he absolutely couldn't let the Great Demon King exit the Demon Gate, even if doing so would leave himself in a weakened state.

"You damned heaven-blessed individual! I will make you pay a heavy price the next time we

meet!"

Upon seeing the Demon Gate closing, the Great Demon King bellowed angrily and repeatedly attacked the door, causing it to tremble violently. Fortunately, the Demon Gate was sufficiently powerful. No matter how much the Great Demon King assailed it, the Demon Gate continued closing at a steady pace.

Finally, 20 seconds later, the Demon Gate closed and disappeared from this space, leaving behind only the heavily injured Infant Golden Dragon and Shi Feng's team in the cavern.

"Brother Black Flame, what should we do now?" Lionheart asked in an uncertain voice after seeing the Demon Gate disappear.

He didn't know whether they should flee or try to kill the Infant Golden Dragon while it was heavily injured. Although the Infant Dragon was significantly weaker than before, it was still much stronger than Superior Mythic monsters of the same level.

"Is there even a need to ask?" Looking at the Infant Dragon that was struggling to stand up, Shi Feng said in a determined tone, "Now is our only chance to slay this Infant Dragon. With our strength, we can't defeat it in its peak state. Don't tell me you're willing to miss out on such an opportunity, Commander Lionheart?"

At Shi Feng's words, Lifeless Thorn and Solitary Nine nodded in agreement. If the Infant Golden Dragon wasn't heavily injured, killing it with their present strength was nigh impossible. Only Tier 5 players could possibly go up against it. "I guess you're right." As Lionheart looked at the Infant Golden Dragon, a trace of determination also appeared in his eyes. He then said, "Since that's the case, let's kill it before it recovers!"

After saying so, Lionheart raised his shield and led the charge against the Infant Golden Dragon, with all the other Tier 4s-except for Shi Feng-following close at his heels.

