

Chapter 3141

Chapter 215 – This Is Only the Beginning

“This... Impossible!”

“Why are there so many peerless geniuses?”

“Did the Five Great Super Guilds really join hands to target us?”

The Flower of Seven Sins’ members were in utter shock and disbelief when they saw the increasing number of youths gathering on the main street.

For veteran experts like themselves, this wasn’t the first time they had seen a force of several hundred peak experts. However, it was a different story for a force of several hundred peerless geniuses. Anyone with a certain degree of understanding about God’s Domain’s various superpowers would understand just how heavy and scary the weight of several hundred peerless geniuses was.

This was no longer a force any individual superpower was capable of mustering.

In fact, even if the Five Great Super Guilds banded together, it was highly unlikely they could form such a large team of peerless geniuses. After all, peerless geniuses were essentially the favored children of heaven. Every one of them had a great chance of reaching Tier 6 in the future. A superpower would be fortunate if it could find even one peerless genius out of ten million youths.

Yet, now, several hundred peerless geniuses were gathered on this street. It was as if every superpower in God’s Domain had decided to send their peerless geniuses to Windy Sand Town.

“Who are you people? Why are you targeting us?” Summer Wolf asked as he looked at the youths around him warily. After seeing so many peerless geniuses gathered, he no longer dared to continue attacking. “May I know what the Flower of Seven Sins has done to offend you? Could there be some sort of misunderstanding?”

When the other Flower of Seven Sins members saw Summer Wolf trying to communicate with the other side, they promptly put away the Death Curse Scroll in their hands, afraid their actions might cause unnecessary misunderstandings.

There was no way such a large number of peerless geniuses had come from a single superpower. There must be numerous superpowers behind them. Anyone who thought otherwise would be a fool.

The Flower of Seven Sins might be a transcendental power capable of exterminating even veteran Super Guilds. However, against the joint force of over a dozen superpowers or the Five Great Super Guilds, even the Flower of Seven Sins would have no choice but to lower its head.

Shortly after Summer Wolf finished speaking, the youths gathered on the main street suddenly stepped aside to open a path. Then, a cloaked man carrying a longsword by his waist slowly walked down this path and approached the Flower of Seven Sins’ members.

The Flower of Seven Sins' members instantly grew alert when they saw this man. This was because this man was none other than Black Flame, Zero Wing's Guild Leader.

"Misunderstanding?" Shi Feng smiled as he looked at Summer Wolf. "How interesting. Tell me, then. How, exactly, did Zero Wing misunderstand you? Is it because you killed too few of our members? Or did you make a mistake when you placed a bounty on us?"

"Zero Wing?!" Summer Wolf stared at Shi Feng in shock. "How can all of you be from Zero Wing?!"

The Flower of Seven Sins had thoroughly investigated Zero Wing before initiating an all-out war with the Guild. While it was true that Zero Wing had some geniuses, these were ordinary geniuses that the various superpowers couldn't even be bothered to recruit. Aside from Black Flame, there was no other noteworthy individual in Zero Wing.

"Aside from Zero Wing, who do you think we could be?" Shi Feng asked with a raised brow. Then, waving his hand dismissively, he continued, "Go back and tell your commanders that this is only the beginning. Sooner or later, Zero Wing will claim back whatever the Flower of Seven Sins owes us!"

As soon as Shi Feng finished speaking, the 200-plus Zero Wing and Twilight Echo members here promptly charged forward like a hungry pack of wolves.

Summer Wolf and the others might be the Flower of Seven Sins' core members, but even Summer Wolf, the strongest out of the group, was only a Domain Realm expert. He might be able to barely survive and escape if he was only going up against six or seven peak experts. However, against a force of twenty or thirty peak experts, he didn't even have a chance to flee for his life.

As for the Flower of Seven Sins' Void Realm experts, they lasted no more than a few seconds when ganged up on by three or four peak experts.

This scene caused the Zero Wing members who had arrived late to sigh dejectedly. Opportunities to fight against so many peak experts were incredibly rare. Yet, the others had gobbled up this opportunity without leaving even scraps for them...

"We've cleaned up Windy Sand Town already. Should we head outside and hunt for the remaining Flower of Seven Sins members?" Blackie asked Shi Feng when he saw that everyone was still filled with enthusiasm. "The Flower of Seven Sins will definitely lose its mind if we wipe out all of its members in the primordial ruins."

Now that the various superpowers were frantically exploring the Boundary Mountain Range, the importance of Mounts had increased drastically. After all, a team without Mounts had a very limited range of movement. The exploration efficiency of such a team would be significantly lower than that of a team equipped with Mounts.

The Flower of Seven Sins had expended a ton of manpower to secure an advantage in the Miniature Ancient World. If its exploration of the Boundary Mountain Range ended up being slower than the various superpowers, the corporations backing the organization would definitely start to have opinions.

Meanwhile, when the newcomers of Zero Wing and Twilight Echo heard Blackie's question, they promptly perked up their ears and looked at Shi Feng with expectant gazes.

Their battle with Windy Sand Town's numerous Refinement Realm experts had only allowed them to get accustomed to the Hypersensitive Potion's effects. It hadn't helped them improve their combat standards by much. If they wanted to improve their combat standards quickly, they needed to engage in more fights with peak experts and above.

Unfortunately, there were far too few peak experts in Windy Sand Town. There weren't even enough for them to share.

"No, that's just a waste of time. The primordial ruins is far too big. With so few of us here, searching for the Flower of Seven Sins' scattered teams is no different than trying to find a needle in a haystack. They should have also received news of the battle here already, so it'll be even more difficult to find them," Shi Feng said, shaking his head. "Sort out the loot for now. Afterward, take everyone out of the town and hunt for Mounts. Once the Hypersensitivity Potion's effects run out, withdraw from the primordial ruins immediately."

The primordial ruins was the size of a kingdom. Trying to find the Flower of Seven Sins' scattered teams with only a 500-man team was simply impractical. Not to mention, they would be exposing themselves to an encirclement if they did so.

If they wanted to maximize the use of the Hypersensitivity Potion, they should be engaging in fights constantly. It didn't matter whether they fought against players or monsters. So long as they kept fighting, they could utilize their enhanced senses to discover their flaws and reduce their weak points. Of course, it would be even better if they could fight against peak experts since doing so would allow them to discover their flaws more easily.

However, the Hypersensitivity Potion's effects only lasted for twelve hours. Rather than waste that limited time running about, it'd be much better if they spent that time fighting easily accessible monsters.

Moreover, Shi Feng had already accomplished his goal in the primordial ruins. All that was left to do was wait for the situation to ferment. After all, he wasn't aiming to train just Zero Wing's and Twilight Echo's geniuses. A more important goal was establishing an unshakable foothold for Zero Wing in the Miniature Ancient World. Only then could Zero Wing enter the upper echelons of God's Domain.

After Shi Feng issued his command, Blackie promptly left with everyone to carry it out.

Meanwhile, not long after Zero Wing's team withdrew from Windy Sand Town, news of Windy Sand Town's forces getting annihilated quickly spread like wildfire.

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Chapter 216 – Famous

Abyssal Star City, Asura Mercenary Alliance's headquarters:

Due to the clash between the Asura Mercenary Alliance and Flower of Seven Sins, many independent experts and adventurer teams had chosen to leave the mercenary alliance and flock to the Guild Towns that had sprung up around the Boundary Mountain Range recently. As a result, Asura's once lively headquarters had become a lot quieter.

Currently, the only people that could be seen in the football field-sized lobby were players from the various first-rate powers and superpowers. Meanwhile, these players were either turning in the quests they had completed or waiting to exchange the last few remaining Lineage Crystals in Asura's warehouse.

"Another Guild has withdrawn from Asura after exchanging a Lineage Crystal, Elder Liu. Going by this trend, several other Guilds that are close to accumulating enough Contribution Points will most likely withdraw from the mercenary alliance in the next few days. Should we raise the exchange price?" Blue Sheath, clad in dark-gray leather armor, asked Liu Wusheng, a frown appearing on her face when she saw another Guild's team leaving the building after exchanging a Lineage Crystal.

Ad

She had seen this scene multiple times over the past few days.

Although the Asura Mercenary Alliance was holding its ground against the Flower of Seven Sins thanks to the Lineage Crystals, the supply of Lineage Crystals was limited.

Moreover, as more and more players started to reach Level 110, the various powers had also shifted their focus to exploring the Boundary Mountain Range. As a result, many teams that saw no hope of exchanging a Lineage Crystal before its supply ran out had swiftly withdrawn from Asura.

As for the various powers and teams that remained in Asura, they weren't optimistic about the mercenary alliance's future, either. Hence, they similarly planned to withdraw from the mercenary alliance after accumulating enough points to exchange Asura's last few Lineage Crystals.

In the current juncture where the various powers were competing fiercely in the exploration of the Boundary Mountain Range, if Asura were to lose the support of these powers, it would definitely be put into a passive state when it came to exploring the Boundary Mountain Range and resisting the Flower of Seven Sins...

"This is the rule that was set at the beginning. If we change it now, it will only create more problems for us," Liu Wusheng said, sighing deeply when he saw another power leaving Asura. "It's especially true now that the entrance to the Boundary Mountain Range's second underground level has been discovered. If we put off any more experts, we might not have enough manpower to even get close to the second underground level's entrance, let alone explore it."

Ad

Blue Sheath clenched her teeth in frustration when she heard Liu Wusheng's words.

Two days ago, a team had finally found the entrance to the Boundary Mountain Range's second underground level. Previously, players had already discovered clues pertaining to Tier 4 Legacies in the Boundary Mountain Range's first underground level, which had, in turn, sparked a shocking war that involved over a hundred powers.

If not for the first underground level's special environment preventing those under the Refinement Realm standard from controlling their bodies properly, the number of players that had participated in that fight would have easily exceeded ten million. Even so, that war had still involved over two hundred thousand players.

Meanwhile, after more than a day of fierce battles, the various powers engaged in the war eventually split up and formed coalition forces. Each of the Five Great Super Guilds had formed its own coalition consisting of several other superpowers. Besides them, the Secret Pavilion and the Flower of Seven Sins had also formed their own coalitions.

The Asura Mercenary Alliance had naturally formed a coalition as well. Although Asura's coalition wasn't as strong as the aforementioned seven coalitions, with over 20,000 Refinement Realm experts serving as its base, Asura had still managed to secure itself a place in the first underground level. Only, due to the frequent clashes with the Flower of Seven Sins' side, Asura's exploration progress was greatly affected.

If the remaining powers in the mercenary alliance also chose to withdraw, Asura might not even be able to establish itself in the first underground level.

While Blue Sheath was lamenting Asura's fate, the team that was originally making its way out of the lobby suddenly stopped. Several other adventurer teams that were in the midst of completing their withdrawal procedures from Asura were also called to stop their actions. Then, after these players exchanged a few words, they promptly canceled their withdrawal procedures and ran for the quest area instead.

Ad

"What's going on?" Blue Sheath was puzzled by these adventurer teams' behavior.

It had already become common to see adventurer teams withdraw from Asura these past few days. After all, in the current situation where Asura could offer very little benefit to these adventurer teams, it would be unwise to clash against the Flower of Seven Sins in the Boundary Mountain Range's first underground level.

"These people are merely seeking advantages while avoiding harm," Liu Wusheng said, suddenly smiling after reading a report he had just received.

"Seeking advantages while avoiding harm? Did something good happen for Asura?" Blue Sheath asked strangely.

"Indeed." Liu Wusheng nodded, a hint of excitement flashing in his eyes. "Around fifteen minutes ago, Guild Leader Black Flame led a force of over 500 peak experts to eradicate the Flower of Seven Sins' forces in Windy Sand Town. The Flower of Seven Sins' three commanders are enraged by this incident and have raised their bounty on Guild Leader Black Flame. They have also had all Flower of Seven Sins members operating in the primordial ruins to start moving in smaller groups."

“Guild Leader Black Flame led a force of over 500 peak experts to eradicate Windy Sand Town’s forces?” Blue Sheath widened her eyes in shock when she heard Liu Wusheng’s words, her brain having difficulty processing this information.

Windy Sand Town was an important stronghold for the Flower of Seven Sins in the primordial ruins. For this reason, the organization had garrisoned the town with at least 6,000 Refinement Realm experts at all times. On top of that, many Refinement Realm Red Players were also using the town as their base of operations.

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Ad

Logically, even a superpower going all out would have no way of exterminating such a powerful force. Yet, Zero Wing had accomplished this feat?

Moreover, what was that about a force of over 500 peak experts?

After all these years of development, Witch’s Sin didn’t even have 200 peak experts under its command. Yet, Zero Wing had over 500 peak experts?

“I see.” Liu Wusheng suddenly remembered the words Hidden Soul had said to him previously, realization dawning upon him. Then, he revealed a bitter smile and said, “So that’s why Chief Administrator Soul wasn’t worried about Zero Wing. If Zero Wing has a force of over 500 peak experts, even the Flower of Seven Sins will have to treat it with caution.”

However, what Liu Wusheng didn’t know was that the real reason the Flower of Seven Sins had reacted so cautiously didn’t lie in the fact that Zero Wing had over 500 peak experts. Instead, it was because every one of these peak experts was under twenty. This had frightened the Flower of Seven Sins’ leadership into commanding the organization’s members to spread out.

“Guild Leader Black Flame has called for all powers with a seat in Asura to gather for a meeting in the top-floor conference room, Elder Liu,” Blue Sheath said after reading a message she had just received. Then, with a stern expression, she continued, “He says he is going to discuss launching an all-out war against the Flower of Seven Sins!”

Ad

“Guild Leader Black Flame wants to have Asura start an all-out war at this juncture?” Liu Wusheng frowned when he heard this. “Is he crazy?”

Asura might have put a bounty on the Flower of Seven Sins and clashed with the organization many times out on the fields, but both sides had merely treated each other as a hostile force. Neither side had escalated the matter beyond that.

However, it would be an entirely different story if Asura were to declare an all-out war.

This would mean that any power tied to Asura would have to choose between fighting with the Flower of Seven Sins to the very end or leaving the mercenary alliance. Rather than declaring war on the Flower

of Seven Sins, it'd be more appropriate to say that Shi Feng was forcing the mercenary alliance's various powers to make a decision.

To leave!

Or to resist!

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Chapter 217 – Shocked

Asura Mercenary Alliance's headquarters, top-floor conference room:

In the conference room that was the size of two basketball courts, twelve seats were arranged around the central round table that took up a good portion of the room's space. Not only were every one of these players at Level 110, but the equipment they wore was also enough to cause even peak experts to drool.

Of these twelve players, even the weakest among them was geared in a Hall of Fame-level Epic Equipment Set. Three of these players even had equipment that carried the glow effect unique to Fragmented Legendary items.

However, rather than the equipment of these three people, what made them feared by the nine other players present was the powers these three people represented.

This was because these three people were representatives of Witch's Sin, World Dominators, and Blackwater. Every one of these Guilds was a publicly recognized superpower in God's Domain. Blackwater, in particular, was not only the ruler of the Iron Empire on the main continent, but it was also publicly recognized as one of the Ten Great Guilds in God's Domain.

It was also because of Blackwater joining the Asura Mercenary Alliance that the Flower of Seven Sins had suffered as much damage as it did.

"Elder Liu, what do you think Guild Leader Black Flame is trying to do? Is he attempting to tie the entire alliance to Zero Wing?" a middle-aged man seated near Liu Wusheng asked coldly. The man wore Blackwater's Guild Emblem on his chest and carried an amethyst staff in his hand. "If Guild Leader Black Flame is really bent on acting so willfully, Blackwater will have to consider withdrawing from the Asura Mercenary Alliance."

"Don't be so hasty, Brother Jing Yang. Didn't Guild Leader Black Flame gather here to discuss this matter?" Liu Wusheng said, smiling as he looked at the middle-aged man named Jing Yang. "Not to mention, the Flower of Seven Sins has taken things too far this time. Even if we don't wage an all-out war against the Flower of Seven Sins, we should still think of a way to deal with it. Otherwise, we'll have trouble doing anything in the Boundary Mountain Range."

“This isn’t a difficult problem to solve. So long as we withdraw from the fight between Asura and the Flower of Seven Sins, the Flower of Seven Sins naturally wouldn’t continue finding trouble with us,” Jing Yang said disdainfully. “I heard that this matter all started because of a problem between Zero Wing and the Flower of Seven Sins. Rather than try to continue taking advantage of the alliance’s strength, Guild Leader Black Flame should consider changing the benefits offered by the alliance.

“More and more Guild Towns are appearing near the Boundary Mountain Range now. Although the environment in these towns is vastly inferior to Abyssal Star City’s environment, they will offer all Guilds who join them a temporary Residence. Yet, despite all our contributions to Asura, the only ones who have Residences in Abyssal Star City are Zero Wing and Witch’s Sin. Don’t you think this is unfair?”

The several first-rate Guild representatives present nodded their heads in agreement when they heard Jing Yang’s words.

To those with an administrative seat in the Asura Mercenary Alliance like themselves, it was no longer a secret that Black Flame was the mercenary alliance’s spokesperson. Or, more specifically, Black Flame was responsible for establishing the Asura Mercenary Alliance.

Meanwhile, if they were asked whether a great power was backing the Asura Mercenary Alliance, the answer would be a yes and no. After all, the power behind Black Flame was based in another God’s Domain, not their Miniature Ancient World. The help it could offer to the mercenary alliance was considerably limited.

Now that Asura was already running out of Lineage Crystals, the only things the mercenary alliance had to offer were Abyssal Star City’s temporary Guild Residences. If the mercenary alliance couldn’t offer them these Residences, it’d be pointless for them to continue clashing against the Flower of Seven Sins.

Liu Wusheng’s complexion turned a little ugly when he heard Jing Yang’s words. Although he had long since known that these powers with administrative seats in Asura were only trying to obtain more benefits from the mercenary alliance, he didn’t think their greed would be so insatiable.

The Residences of Abyssal Star City were different from the various Guild Towns’ temporary teleportation points. The city only had a limited number of Residences available. Not to mention, Witch’s Sin had thoroughly tied itself to Zero Wing’s ship to acquire its Residence in Abyssal Star City. Meanwhile, of the powers with administrative seats in Asura, aside from the Star Alliance, Mysterious Moon, and Hundred Flower Palace, everyone else was here solely for Asura’s Lineage Crystals. They had practically exchanged everything good that the mercenary alliance had to offer.

As for the matter of clashing against the Flower of Seven Sins, that was nothing but an excuse. Most of the Flower of Seven Sins members that these powers had killed were merely the organization’s outer members. The loss of these outer members was of no significance to the Flower of Seven Sins. Meanwhile, the Flower of Seven Sins had also formed a tacit understanding with these powers and likewise targeted only their normal members. Never had the Flower of Seven Sins touched these powers’ core members.

Yet, despite knowing the act these powers were putting on, there was nothing Liu Wusheng could do about it. If Asura didn't have the help of these powers, particularly Blackwater and World Dominators, the mercenary alliance couldn't even set foot into the Boundary Mountain Range.

This was also why Liu Wusheng felt that Shi Feng's actions were a little too crazy this time.

While making these fence-sitters take a side right now might reduce the number of leeches attached to it, the departure of these powers would also cause Asura's strength to plummet. This, in turn, would make Asura an easier target for the Flower of Seven Sins.

"You want a Residence in Abyssal Star City? Not a problem!" At this time, the doors to the conference room suddenly opened. Then, under everyone's gaze, Shi Feng walked into the room and smiled, saying, "So long as you become an affiliated Guild of Zero Wing or pay a contribution of 30,000 units of Seven Luminaries Crystals per month, I can let you have a temporary Residence in Abyssal Star City."

"Becoming an affiliated Guild or pay a monthly contribution of Seven Luminaries Crystals?" Jing Yang laughed when he heard Shi Feng's words. "What a big appetite you have there, Guild Leader Black Flame. Or do you think you can go against the Flower of Seven Sins by yourself now that you have the help of five hundred peak experts?"

Several of the other representatives nodded in agreement with Jing Yang's words.

Peak experts and apex experts cost an astronomical amount of resources to maintain and develop. Otherwise, the various superpowers wouldn't have only so few Tier 6 God-ranked experts despite having so many peak and apex experts under their command.

Zero Wing's 500-plus Tier 3 peak experts might be powerful now, but that wouldn't necessarily be the case in the future. As time went on and players continued leveling up, unless Zero Wing could ensure that its peak experts kept up with other peak experts in terms of weapons, equipment, Skills, and Spells, it wouldn't matter even if these peak experts retained their combat standards. Their combat power would quickly fall behind other peak experts.

Take the current situation where the various powers were fiercely competing over Tier 4 promotion resources, for example. If Zero Wing couldn't get its hands on any of these promotion resources, it didn't matter how many Tier 3 peak experts it had under its command. No amount of Tier 3 peak experts could compare to one Tier 4 peak expert.

Meanwhile, their various powers were crucial in determining whether Asura and Zero Wing could get their hands on those Tier 4 promotion resources.

The Boundary Mountain Range's underground area had a harsh environment that drastically increased players' Stamina and Concentration consumption. Fighting in the underground area was similar to fighting in the real world. Even Tier 6 God-ranked experts could, at most, kill a hundred players before running out of Stamina and Concentration. Once they exhausted themselves, they'd be helpless to the point where even ordinary players could kill them.

A force of 500-plus peak experts might seem very strong, but such a force could do very little in the Boundary Mountain Range's underground area. A force of 500 peak experts might not even be worth as

much as a force of 5,000 Refinement Realm experts in the underground area. This was also why Asura could secure a place for itself in the Boundary Mountain Range's first underground level despite having very few peak experts.

"You don't need to concern yourselves with this," Shi Feng said nonchalantly. "I have only called you all here today to inform you that the Asura Mercenary Alliance will openly start a full-scale war with the Flower of Seven Sins. If you are willing to stay with Asura, grow with Asura, and fight against the Flower of Seven Sins, we are more than willing to welcome you. If not, we will not force you to stay."

After saying so, Shi Feng didn't even bother to look at everyone's reactions as he turned around and left the conference room, leaving everyone in the conference room in a daze.

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Chapter 218 – Gods

"He left?"

"He left, just like that?"

Jing Yang and the others in the conference room were taken aback when they saw Shi Feng leaving so abruptly and without showing any care about whether they withdrew from Asura.

Even Liu Wusheng was stunned by this development.

The current Asura Mercenary Alliance relied mainly on World Dominators and Blackwater to resist the Flower of Seven Sins. If these two Super Guilds withdrew from the mercenary alliance, Asura would most likely lose the ability to maintain its foothold in the Boundary Mountain Range's underground area. When that happened, Asura could only watch as the Flower of Seven Sins' many experts got promoted to Tier 4 and widened the gap between their two powers even further.

After a moment of silence, Jing Yang turned to the elderly man from World Dominators and asked respectfully, "What do you think of this situation, Elder Sword? Could Black Flame really be planning on entering the underground area with only five hundred peak experts?"

Ad

Jing Yang could ignore the opinions of Witch's Sin's Liu Wusheng since the other party was only a Tier 5 expert even at his peak. While Jing Yang had also been a Tier 5 expert during his peak, he was much younger than Liu Wusheng. He still had a chance at getting promoted to Tier 6, but Liu Wusheng's chances of reaching Tier 6 were most likely nonexistent with his advanced age.

However, it was a different story for World Dominators' Thousand Swords. Not only was Thousand Swords the Great Elder of World Dominators, but he was also a bona fide Tier 6 Sword God at his peak.

He was an existence who had truly stood at the apex of God's Domain before coming to the Miniature Ancient World.

"If *that* person from the Sin of Gluttony wasn't there, Black Flame might stand a chance," Thousand Swords said. Then, he shook his head and continued, "But with that lunatic garrisoning that place, Black Flame stands no chance. Not to mention, aside from that lunatic, several other old friends are there as well. Even if Black Flame and I join hands, we are unlikely to come out of that place alive..."

Sure enough, our investigation results are similar. Jing Yang wasn't particularly surprised when he heard Thousand Swords' answer. "Black Flame has no idea how deep the waters are in the Boundary Mountain Range's underground area. He thinks he can act fearlessly with just one God-ranked expert and five hundred peak experts."

Now that the War of Worlds was coming closer and closer, the various superpowers had also started sending more experts into the Miniature Ancient World. Even Tier 6 God-ranked experts were mobilized. It was just that nobody knew how many God-ranked experts each other had sent.

Ad

However, according to the Blackwater Corporation's sources, at least seven God-ranked experts were operating in the Boundary Mountain Range's first underground level at all times!

Moreover, there were even faint signs showing that the powers behind these God-ranked experts were planning on joining hands to monopolize the Boundary Mountain Range's second underground level. If that was true, it'd become impossible for other powers to get a slice of the action.

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Night arrived in the Miniature Ancient World, and bright lights illuminated Abyssal Star City's streets. Players could be seen all over the city, either walking and talking merrily on the streets or enjoying a meal and a conversation with friends in restaurants and pubs.

Meanwhile, at this time, every player in the city was talking about the same thing—the Asura Mercenary Alliance!

After Zero Wing had mobilized a force of 500-plus peak experts to wipe out the Flower of Seven Sins' forces in Windy Sand Town, the Asura Mercenary Alliance had subsequently declared an all-out war on the Flower of Seven Sins.

For a time, the Miniature Ancient World's various powers were in an uproar.

The Flower of Seven Sins was the number one assassin organization in God's Domain. The organization was also the only power to have turned the tables on the Five Great Super Guilds after being declared war on by them, causing the Five Great Super Guilds to suffer severe losses. Eventually, the Five Great Super Guilds even had to stop targeting the Flower of Seven Sins to stop their losses.

Ad

Now that the Asura had publicly declared war on the Flower of Seven Sins, the mercenary alliance's good days were undoubtedly coming to an end.

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"Don't you think you are in too much of a rush, Guild Leader Black Flame?" Hidden Soul asked worriedly as she looked at Shi Feng, who was sorting out documents behind his desk. "Aside from Witch's Sin, Hundred Flower Palace, Mysterious Moon, and the Star Alliance, the other Guilds have all withdrawn from the mercenary alliance. With this, it'll become even more difficult for us to enter the Boundary Mountain Range's second underground level..."

Hidden Soul wasn't against Shi Feng's decision to get rid of the fence-sitters in Asura as soon as possible. After all, these fence-sitters had only joined Asura because of the Lineage Crystals. They weren't actual allies of Asura. On the contrary, these powers had even reduced the living space available for independent experts in Asura. Hence, it was a must to get rid of these fence-sitters.

The only problem was that without the support of these powers, Asura wouldn't even have the strength necessary to get close to the Boundary Mountain Range's second underground level.

Not to mention, unlike outsiders, Hidden Soul knew that Zero Wing's so-called peak experts were merely a temporary product of the Hypersensitivity Potion. It might be fine if they had access to an unlimited supply of Hypersensitivity Potions, but that wasn't the case at all. Hypersensitivity Potions were incredibly valuable and limited in supply. So, they couldn't constantly be used as tools for combat.

Ad

"Rush?" Shi Feng chuckled. "Indeed, I am in a rush. After all, if they don't leave, I'd have no way of carrying out the next step of my plan against the Flower of Seven Sins."

"The next step of your plan against the Flower of Seven Sins?" Hidden Soul grew confused. "Was what you did still not everything?"

Zero Wing might have gained a batch of Hypersensitivity Potions, but these potions had yet to transform into Zero Wing's strength, let alone the Asura Mercenary Alliance's strength. If they were to clash against the Flower of Seven Sins now, they'd have no chance of victory.

"Of course not," Shi Feng said. "How are the preparations for the Seven Luminaries Crystals coming along?"

"I've collected all 3,000 units already," Hidden Soul said as he handed a bag full of Seven Luminaries Crystals to Shi Feng. Then, with a bitter smile, she continued, "But we have also spent the last of our Lineage Crystals as a result. So, I'm afraid we'll have a very difficult time resisting the Flower of Seven Sins from now on."

Previously, many experts had joined Asura to resist the Flower of Seven Sins due to the allure of the Lineage Crystals. However, now that Asura had no more Lineage Crystals to offer, these experts naturally had no more reason to clash with the Flower of Seven Sins.

“Relax. We won’t need outsiders to help us deal with the Flower of Seven Sins anymore. From now on, we will deal with this problem ourselves!”

Ad

After inspecting the bag of Seven Luminaries Crystals, Shi Feng chuckled as he took out the Abyss Workshop Certification from his bag. Then, he injected all 3,000 units of Seven Luminaries Crystals into the certificate, opening a World-Breaking Gate and connecting it to the World-Breaking Teleportation Array he had set up previously.

Boom!

Immediately, space in the middle of the office shattered, and a dark-gray rift slowly opened.

After this spatial rift reached five meters in width, space within the room gradually stabilized. Then, several figures walked out from the dark-gray rift a moment later.

“Is this the world outside the Stratified Abyssal Realm?”

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Chapter 219 – Eighth Great Power

Several figures walked out of the dark-gray rift one after another. Upon seeing these figures, Hidden Soul’s eyes widened in shock.

This was because the people who had walked out of the rift were none other than the members of the Glimmer adventurer team and the Purple Light Chamber of Commerce. Both organizations were powers based in the Stratified Abyssal Realm’s Slumber City.

Although only seven people had stepped through the rift, every one of these seven people had combat standards at the World Tower’s third-floor standard or higher. They were all existences that even the various superpowers would find tricky to deal with.

More specifically, every one of these seven people was an expert who had gained the Temple Knight status.

It was incredibly difficult for players to gain the Temple Knight status in the Stratified Abyssal Realm. This was the case even for third-floor experts. Out of all the third-floor experts in Slumber City, only around one-fifth of them had managed to pass the trial to become a Temple Knight. Meanwhile, every official Temple Knight possessed combat standards rivaling Tier 6 God-ranked experts, with some even surpassing God-ranked experts.

Ad

Not to mention, Slumber City's number one expert was even among the seven people who had stepped out of the rift.

The Glimmering Sword, Laura Crader!

Laura Crader was a monster whose strength was shrouded in mystery. She was also the only expert whose strength Hidden Soul had failed to see through.

In addition to Laura Crader, the three vice commanders of Glimmer standing behind Laura also possessed extraordinary strength. Hidden Soul could feel an intense pressure coming from the two men and one woman. Out of the three vice commanders, the three-meter-tall middle-aged man that looked like a bear gave off a presence that was just as strong as Solitary Soul, the commander of the Death Curse adventurer team.

If these four moved together, Hidden Soul doubted that there'd be anyone who could go against them. It was especially true considering all four of these people had already reached Level 120 and were equipped with at least two or three Fragmented Legendary items. In terms of equipment standards, they undoubtedly stood at the top of the current Miniature Ancient World.

"Why is the Mana density here so much lower?" Wordless Ember, a Level 116 Swordsman from Purple Light, muttered as he looked around in confusion. "Wasn't the world outside supposed to be much better?"

According to the rumors circulating in the Stratified Abyssal Realm, there existed a much more expansive world outside the Stratified Abyssal Realm. Meanwhile, this outside world was vastly superior to the Stratified Abyssal Realm in many aspects.

However, based on his senses, Wordless Ember found that the density of the Mana inside this office was much lower than the Mana in the Stratified Abyssal Realm. He even wondered if he had returned to the starting zone for a moment.

"This should be outside the Stratified Abyssal Realm. While the Mana density is indeed lower, the elemental composition of the Mana here is much more complex. The dark element only makes up a small percentage, so using Dark Skills and Spells won't bring us any more advantages. Moreover, I can feel that the restriction on Mana has lessened significantly. It has become much easier to release my Mana Domain," Sleeping Quicksand, a Level 117 Oracle, said definitively.

Ad

"You two be quiet," Echoing Judgment, the commander of Purple Light, said as he gave Wordless Ember and Sleeping Quicksand a glare. Then, he turned to Shi Feng and said apologetically, "I'm sorry for their rude behavior, Mr. Black Flame. This is their first time leaving the Stratified Abyssal Realm, so they can't help but get excited."

Although many rumors mentioned the possibility of leaving the Stratified Abyssal Realm floating about in the Stratified Abyssal Realm, none had ever been verified. When Shi Feng had told him that he could bring people out of the Stratified Abyssal Realm, Echoing Judgment had thought that Shi Feng was joking with him.

After all, it was the dream of countless players to leave the Stratified Abyssal Realm. Even the Dark Sanctuary's various powers didn't have a way to do so. So, there was no way Echoing Judgment could take Shi Feng's words seriously.

However, it also didn't make sense for him to trick the Purple Light Chamber of Commerce. After all, on top of Shi Feng's status in Slumber City, Zero Wing was also currently receiving the full support of the Glimmer adventurer team. When it came to resources, Glimmer was leagues ahead of Purple Light. This was also the case in terms of combat power.

Hence, despite his doubts, Echoing Judgment had agreed to Shi Feng's offer to bring some of Purple Light's members out of the Stratified Abyssal Realm periodically. In exchange, Purple Light would join the Asura Mercenary Alliance and fully support Zero Wing's endeavors in the Stratified Abyssal Realm.

Subsequently, following the terms of their agreement, Echoing Judgment brought Wordless Ember and Sleeping Quicksand to Zero Wing's Shop, which was established on one of Slumber City's Golden Lands. Then, after waiting for nearly a day, just when he started to wonder whether Shi Feng had tricked them, a spatial rift suddenly opened inside the Shop's secret room. Moreover, this rift had actually brought them out of the Stratified Abyssal Realm.

"This place might be outside the Stratified Abyssal Realm, but it is still only a Miniature Ancient World. So, the Mana density here is indeed inferior to the Stratified Abyssal Realm. However, there is no level limit here," Shi Feng explained. "You can also break through the limits of Tier 3 and ascend to higher tiers. So long as your tier is sufficiently high, you will also have an easier time once you enter the Greater God's Domain in the future. At the very least, it'll be much better than if you were to simply wait for the Stratified Abyssal Realm to merge with the Greater God's Domain."

Ad

"There are no level and tier limits?" Wordless Ember's eyes glowed with excitement.

The Stratified Abyssal Realm's level and tier limit might have been fine if they weren't aware of the existence of higher levels and tiers. However, there existed Tier 4 NPCs in the Stratified Abyssal Realm. Meanwhile, any player who had seen the strength of Tier 4 NPCs would be lying if they said they weren't interested in getting promoted to Tier 4.

Meanwhile, when the four people from Glimmer heard Shi Feng's words, they had similarly shown hints of excitement on their faces. However, unlike Purple Light's members, Glimmer's members weren't surprised by the Miniature Ancient World's inferior Mana density. It was as if they had expected this situation, their faces strangely calm when they sensed their surrounding environment.

"Here is the information on this Miniature Ancient World. Take a look at it while you rest here for a while. You'll have many things you need to do afterward," Shi Feng said as he handed the seven people a compilation report on the Miniature Ancient World. Then, he left the office before Hidden Soul could even react to this unexpected development.

...

Morning the next day, the sun rose in the Miniature Ancient World and shined its rays onto Abyssal Star City.

After losing the various powers' support, the number of players frequenting the Asura Mercenary Alliance's headquarters had fallen by more than 80%. The number of Refinement Realm experts picking up quests in the quest area had also reduced to an unimaginable level.

Meanwhile, inside the top-floor conference room, the round table that originally had twelve seats arranged around it currently had only four remaining.

"The conference room sure has become a lot quieter now that those Guilds are gone," Galaxy Past said, sighing as he looked at the somewhat empty conference room. "Although we now have a lot less competition, it has also become a lot more difficult for us to face the Flower of Seven Sins."

Ad

Galaxy Past had some matters he needed to deal with previously, so someone else had attended the previous conference in his place. However, he didn't think such an unexpected development would take place during the conference he had missed.

The departure of World Dominators and Blackwater instantly caused the Asura Mercenary Alliance to lose its place in the Boundary Mountain Range.

As if to rub salt into Asura's wound, after leaving the mercenary alliance, Blackwater, World Dominators, and the various first-rate powers had formed their own alliance and secured themselves a spot in the Boundary Mountain Range. Now, the Asura Mercenary Alliance was truly behind the various powers when it came to progressing toward the Tier 4 promotion.

"None of those powers have joined with sincere intentions, so it's fine even if they leave Asura sooner than later. Although our progress toward Tier 4 might slow down a little, the mercenary alliance would have to deal with fewer leeches at the very least," Crimson Heart, who was representing Hundred Flower Palace, said nonchalantly. "Moreover, Asura still retains a significant advantage when it comes to leveling up. It won't be too late for us to go and compete for the Boundary Mountain Range's resources after we have reached an adequate level."

"It seems you are quite confident in Asura's future development, Vice Guild Leader Crimson. Do you perhaps have some insider information?" Liu Wusheng asked curiously as he looked at Crimson Heart, who had not attended the previous meeting.

According to Witch's Sin's sources, Hundred Flower Palace shouldn't have a close relationship with Zero Wing. Yet, for some reason, Hundred Flower Palace suddenly appeared and started showing full support for Zero Wing's decision. It had even gone as far as to invest all of its experts into resisting the Flower of Seven Sins and completing the Asura Mercenary Alliance's quests to secure itself an administrative seat in Asura.

It was as if Hundred Flower Palace possessed some kind of unknown confidence toward the Asura Mercenary Alliance. It didn't even show any concern toward Asura launching a full-scale war. This behavior was truly cause for suspicion.

Ad

“It’s not really insider information. I’m sure it won’t be long before Guild Leader Black Flame tells it to you himself,” Crimson Heart said with a faint smile.

After experiencing the trip to the Stratified Abyssal Realm, Crimson Heart was very confident in the Asura Mercenary Alliance’s future.

So long as Asura could receive a stable supply of Hypersensitivity Potions, given enough time, it absolutely would not have any trouble resisting the Flower of Seven Sins in the future. Asura might even become the Eighth Great Power in the Miniature Ancient World.

“Guild Leader Black Flame will tell us himself?”

Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past were confused by Crimson Heart’s words. They couldn’t understand why Crimson Heart was so confident that Asura could go up against the current Flower of Seven Sins.

At this time, the doors to the conference room suddenly opened. Then, Shi Feng entered the room with a man and a woman following him.

The man was a robust middle-aged man, while the woman was a rare beauty with long light-blue hair. Upon seeing the woman wearing a silver crown, Liu Wusheng, Galaxy Past, and even Crimson Heart were shocked.

Level 120?

The Glimmering Sword?

...

TL Notes:

[1]

Fyi, the “Level 120?” should be the thoughts of Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past, while the “The Glimmering Sword?” should be Crimson Heart’s thought bubble.

Chapter 3146

Chapter 220 – Earth-Shattering

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Black Flame's level is already more than astonishing! Even someone who has grinded nonstop and without even going offline since the Miniature Ancient World's launch would, at best, match his level! But Level 120?! Who is this woman?!

Shock and confusion filled Liu Wusheng when he saw Glimmering Sword's level.

Players would have their leveling speed plummet once they reached Level 100. Even the main force members of the various superpowers grinding in a map with abundant monsters would need two or three days to level up once.

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Players' leveling speed would fall by another notch once they reached Level 110 in the Miniature Ancient World. This was because monsters outside the Boundary Mountain Range would not exceed Level 120. Not to mention, the level suppression in the Miniature Ancient World was much stronger than on the main continent.

Overall, it should take at least another month of constant grinding for the various superpowers' main force members to reach Level 120.

Yet, the woman with light-blue hair walking had already reached Level 120, essentially surpassing the various superpowers' progress by a month.

Moreover, since Glimmering Sword had already reached Level 120, it meant that she could start exploring the core region of the Boundary Mountain Range's underground area and challenge her Tier 4 promotion!

How many secrets is Black Flame hiding?? Galaxy Past was similarly shocked when he looked at Glimmering Sword.

In the eyes of the average player, reaching Level 120 might not seem like a big deal. After all, it was only a difference of several levels.

However, as the former Guild Leader of a first-rate Guild, Galaxy Past understood the significance of reaching Level 120. Glimmering Sword's appearance would definitely change the current status quo in the Miniature Ancient World.

This was because reaching Level 120 meant that Glimmering Sword could get promoted to Tier 4 before all other players.

Meanwhile, so long as Glimmering Sword reached Tier 4, the Asura Mercenary Alliance would have an overwhelming advantage over the other powers. At that time, the mercenary alliance could monopolize the various resources available in the Boundary Mountain Range, and not even the Five Great Super Guilds would dare to have an opinion about it.

Aside from Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past, Crimson Heart from Hundred Flower Palace was similarly shocked to see Glimmering Sword. In fact, the degree of shock she experienced was even greater than Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past.

Didn't they say that the Stratified Abyssal Realm's natives couldn't leave the Stratified Abyssal Realm?? Confusion filled Crimson Heart's mind as she looked at Glimmering Sword.

After living in the Stratified Abyssal Realm for ten days, Crimson Heart had already gained a good understanding of the situation there.

Ad

There was no question that the Stratified Abyssal Realm's players possessed combat standards far surpassing the players of their God's Domain. In fact, just the experts in Slumber City were more than enough to trample over the entire Miniature Ancient World.

After learning about the strength of the Stratified Abyssal Realm's players, Crimson Heart had naturally thought of recruiting some of these experts and bringing them to the Miniature Ancient World.

However, after looking through all available information, she came to the conclusion that none of the Stratified Abyssal Realm's native players could leave. Although there was a rumor mentioning that there might be a way to do so at the Dark Sanctuary, that was only a rumor that had never been verified.

Hence, Crimson Heart couldn't even begin to fathom what means Shi Feng had used to actually be able to bring players out of the Stratified Abyssal Realm.

Meanwhile, after being in shock for a brief moment, Crimson Heart couldn't help but shudder in excitement. This was because she could already foresee the Miniature Ancient World's power structure undergoing a thorough change. At the end of these changes, the Five Great Super Guilds and the transcendental powers Secret Pavilion and Flower of Seven Sins would likely become history.

"These two here are Commander Glimmering Sword and Commander Echoing Judgment," Shi Feng said, briefly introducing Laura Crader and Echoing Judgment to the others in the room. "They will be joining Asura from today on. Each of them will also hold an administrative seat in Asura."

Glimmering Sword and Echoing Judgment nodded and proceeded to do a brief self-introduction before taking a seat at the table.

Despite Shi Feng abruptly announcing that Glimmering Sword and Echoing Judgment would each occupy an administrative seat in Asura, nobody present objected to the decision or found it unfair. This was because the levels of Glimmering Sword and Echoing Judgment had already mentioned a lot of things. There was also a high likelihood that the two had come from the so-called Zero Wing behind Shi Feng.

At this point, it was already very obvious that the Asura Mercenary Alliance was an auxiliary power of Zero Wing. So, Zero Wing naturally had the authority to decide which power could join and hold an administrative seat in the mercenary alliance.

Ad

Not to mention, the stronger the Asura Mercenary Alliance became, the more beneficial it would be for the powers tied to Asura.

“Let’s start discussing our subsequent actions, then,” Shi Feng said after seeing that everyone was seated. “Now that we have already declared an all-out war against the Flower of Seven Sins, we naturally have to do something to show for it. To ensure that we can make the Flower of Seven Sins truly feel the effects of our declaration of war, I plan to eliminate the Flower of Seven Sins’ main force in the Boundary Mountain Range.”

The main force of any power was the product of spending an astronomical amount of resources. A power’s main force was usually responsible for raiding challenging monsters and exploring dangerous areas to secure advantages for the power they belonged to.

Meanwhile, the death of even one main force member was enough to cause a power’s heart to bleed. If a power’s entire main force got wiped out, it would significantly impact the power’s future development.

“Eliminate the Flower of Seven Sins’ main force?”

Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past were stunned by Shi Feng’s words.

“Guild Leader Black Flame, isn’t this too crazy?” Hurriedly, Liu Wusheng said, “The Flower of Seven Sins’ main force is currently being led by the Sin of Gluttony’s commander. In addition, the several great alliances have already monopolized the second underground level. With Asura’s current strength, we probably can’t even get past the second level’s entrance, let alone enter the second level to target the Flower of Seven Sins’ main force...”

Due to the Boundary Mountain Range’s unique environment, the quantity of experts had become much more important than quality.

Moreover, because the Flower of Seven Sins’ main force operated in the Boundary Mountain Range’s second underground level, they’d have to reach the second underground level before they could eliminate the Flower of Seven Sins’ main force. However, the various great alliances had already monopolized the second underground level. The average alliance couldn’t even get close to it, let alone the Asura Mercenary Alliance.

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“I agree. After Blackwater and World Dominators’ withdrawal, Asura only has a few thousand Refinement Realm experts remaining. Even if we invest all of them into the Boundary Mountain Range, it still wouldn’t be enough to go up against the Flower of Seven Sins’ several tens of thousands of Refinement Realm experts...” Galaxy Past said.

If Blackwater and World Dominators hadn’t withdrawn from the Asura Mercenary Alliance, Asura might have had the ability to clash against the alliance formed by the Flower of Seven Sins. However, with the situation as it was, Asura had no hope of contending against the Flower of Seven Sins. Not to mention, the bounty the Flower of Seven Sins had put on Asura was still in effect.

“It might be a little crazy, but we aren’t without a chance,” Shi Feng said as he looked at Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past. “I don’t plan on mobilizing a large number of Refinement Realm experts. Instead, we’ll

be sneaking into the second underground level with only a 100-man team. So long as we are fast enough, we can enter the second level before the great alliances can react.”

“Sneak in with only a 100-man team?” Liu Wusheng frowned when he heard Shi Feng’s plan. “The several great alliances might not have formed a blockade yet, and we can indeed move quickly in a 100-man team, but we’ll have difficulty breaking through if we come across a 1,000-man team. If we get held down for too long, we’ll only get surrounded and killed...”

Galaxy Past nodded in agreement, thinking that Shi Feng’s plan was too crazy. Shi Feng might be a God-ranked expert, but the several great alliances similarly had God-ranked experts guarding the entrance to the second underground level. So, the Asura Mercenary Alliance had no advantages over the great alliances.

“Since Guild Leader Black Flame has already said so, Hundred Flower Palace is willing to participate in this operation,” Crimson Heart suddenly said.

“Mysterious Moon is also willing to send players for this operation,” Zhuo Yalin said, albeit somewhat reluctantly.

Similar to Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past, Zhuo Yalin also felt that Shi Feng’s plan carried great risk. One unexpected encounter could easily result in the dispatched experts being wiped out. However, Lin Yaoyue, who stood next to her, had urged her to agree to the plan, so she decided to trust her friend’s judgment.

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Meanwhile, Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past couldn’t help but grow confused when they saw Hundred Flower Palace and Mysterious Moon agreeing to Shi Feng’s crazy plan. They couldn’t understand why the two Guilds were so confident in Zero Wing. After all, the operation involved them entering a lion’s den filled with tens of thousands of Refinement Realm experts. This simply wasn’t a force the current Asura Mercenary Alliance could go up against.

“Fine. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. The Star Alliance is also willing to participate,” Galaxy Past said, gritting his teeth.

He’d be lying if he said he wasn’t interested in gaining access to the Boundary Mountain Range’s second underground level. After all, the second underground level held crucial information pertaining to the Tier 4 promotion. Since Zero Wing, Hundred Flower Palace, and Mysterious Moon were willing to take the risk, the Star Alliance naturally couldn’t shrink back.

“It seems I’m going to have to work these old bones again. Witch’s Sin is also willing to join,” Liu Wusheng said, sighing deeply.

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Chapter 222 – One Person is Enough!

Boundary Mountain Range, second underground level's entrance:

Currently, a super-large magic barrier that covered a 1,000-yard radius and was maintained by 324 players had thoroughly enveloped the cavern that led to the Boundary Mountain Range's second underground level.

"A Crimson Demon Barrier! To think you Five Great Super Guilds would be willing to make such a huge investment!" Thousand Swords, a white-haired old man who had reached Level 110, exclaimed as he looked at the white-robed old man with a graying beard standing next to him. Even though he was around the same age as the gray-bearded old man, he dared not act rashly around the other party.

This was because the old Elementalist was Chiyang Tianhe, the Honorary Elder of one of the Five Great Super Guilds Solar Temple. When Chiyang Tianhe first entered God's Domain, he was already an old monster only half a step away from the Beyond Domain Realm.

Now that ten years had gone by already, combined with the abundant resources provided by Solar Temple, Thousand Swords couldn't even begin to imagine how strong Chiyang Tianhe had become. It was especially so now that Chiyang Tianhe was standing within a Crimson Demon Barrier.

Ad

The Crimson Demon Barrier was a large-scale Master Magic Array that required 324 Master Magicians to operate. It was one of the best Master Magic Array in God's Domain, and the materials required to form a Crimson Demon Barrier were enough to leave a huge hole in a first-rate Guild's pockets.

In exchange for the exorbitant operational costs, the Crimson Demon Barrier could reduce the Basic Attributes of even Tier 4 Mythic monsters by 30% or more. The barrier was also incredibly sturdy, able to withstand hundreds of attacks from a Mythic monster outside the barrier and double that number from the inside. Moreover, players couldn't teleport while inside the barrier.

Unless a Tier 5 player appeared, the Crimson Demon Barrier was essentially a small yet unshakable fortress.

"The second underground level is worth this price," Chiyang Tianhe, who had reached Level 112 already, said, a faint smile forming on his face as he looked at the Crimson Demon Barrier. "Anyway, I'm quite surprised you would abandon the main continent. It seems World Dominators is quite invested in the Miniature Ancient World. Or have you reached a bottleneck and are trying to find a breakthrough here?"

"Both," Thousand Swords said, not bothering to hide this information. "What about you? Will Solar Temple really be fine letting its Honorary Elder come to the Miniature Ancient World?"

“I’m old. The Guild’s youngsters are also becoming more and more talented with every subsequent generation, so I’m confident in leaving the Guild in their hands,” Chiyang Tianhe said, chuckling. “Also, it honestly relieves me that World Dominators has withdrawn from Asura. Otherwise, fighting you is going to be a headache.”

Ad

“Even if you don’t have to fight me, you’ll probably still be getting a headache in a moment,” Thousand Swords said, curling his lips. He did not believe anything that Chiyang Tianhe had said about getting a headache from fighting him.

“Are you talking about Zero Wing’s Black Flame?” Curiously, Chiyang Tianhe asked, “Is he very strong?”

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“That little girl is indeed amazing. Despite never reaching Tier 6, her combat standard and techniques are in no way inferior to actual God-ranked experts. If Black Flame received that little girl’s acknowledgment, he would be quite the interesting opponent to fight,” Chiyang Tianhe said, nodding his head. Then, he looked toward a young woman and a middle-aged man standing nearby and continued, “But I’m afraid Black Flame has made an unwise decision to come here this time. While I might not hold any personal opinions against Asura, the youngsters from the Flower of Seven Sins and Sacred Temple are unlikely to go easy on him.”

Hearing this, Thousand Swords also turned to look at the young woman and middle-aged man without objecting to Chiyang Tianhe’s comment.

Of the two people in question, the young woman was the Flower of Seven Sins’ Death Omen, while the middle-aged man was Sacred Temple’s Ruthless Sky.

In the case of Death Omen, she was the most talented female Assassin that had appeared in the Flower of Seven Sins in recent years. Even with his current strength, Thousand Swords would feel frightened when he imagined Death Omen coming after his life.

As for Sacred Temple’s Ruthless Sky, aside from being the Gale Sword Meister, one of the Eight Sword Masters in God’s Domain, he was also an expert close to reaching the Domain Realm’s third step. In the future, there was no doubt he would join the ranks of “old monsters.”

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With these two people here, even if Chiyang Tianhe abstained from taking action, Thousand Swords doubted that Shi Feng could beat either of them while inside the Crimson Demon Barrier. If the two of them worked together, Shi Feng would most likely fall.

This was why Thousand Swords had previously told Jing Yang that they were unlikely to enter the second underground level even if he worked with Shi Feng.

Just the fact that Solar Temple's Honorary Elder Chiyang Tianhe was guarding the second level's entrance already made this place an impenetrable fortress. On top of that, the place was even guarded by Death Omen, Ruthless Sky, and a force of 20,000 Refinement Realm experts or above.

While Thousand Swords and Chiyang Tianhe were happily conversing, a 100-man team suddenly appeared at the cavern's entrance. Along with the team's arrival, the players in the cavern couldn't help but turn their attention to the snowy-white wolf standing at the front of the team.

"It's Black Flame! Black Flame is here!"

"I thought the report just now was nothing but a joke. I really didn't expect that the Asura Mercenary Alliance would dare to come here."

"They probably don't know that the several great alliances have already joined forces. Black Flame must be feeling quite shocked right about now. In addition to three God-ranked experts, there are also 20,000 Refinement Realm experts guarding this place. Even if Black Flame says that he is only here to target the Flower of Seven Sins, the other powers in the alliance probably won't sit by and do nothing."

The various powers' members grinned and snickered when they saw Asura's team appearing at the cavern's entrance, finding Asura's ignorance of the situation amusing.

The Asura Mercenary Alliance might have thought that it had the strength to go against the Flower of Seven Sins after Zero Wing's victory in Windy Sand Town, but the mercenary alliance had no idea just how powerful the Flower of Seven Sins actually was. Not to mention, Asura's opponent this time wasn't limited to just the Flower of Seven Sins. The mercenary alliance would also need to clash against the various superpowers that had joined forces with the Flower of Seven Sins.

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"They're here?" Death Omen narrowed her eyes as she focused her gaze on a masked woman in Shi Feng's team. This masked woman was none other than Hidden Soul, the Sin of Pride's former commander. Then, Death Omen smiled as she said, "This time, I'll let you know how laughable your decision is."

...

Meanwhile, over at Shi Feng's team, Liu Wusheng and Galaxy Past revealed somber expressions on their faces when they saw the army of experts ahead of them.

"Why are there so many experts gathered here?"

"A Crimson Demon Barrier! This is probably something only the Five Great Super Guilds can take out. Moreover, why are the Flower of Seven Sins' and Five Great Super Guilds' members together? Did they join forces?"

Before making their way here, they had already heard rumors of the several great alliances joining forces to monopolize the Boundary Mountain Range's second underground level. However, they didn't think that the great alliances would act so quickly.

“God-ranked experts and a Crimson Demon Barrier... With this, nobody can enter the second underground level without permission from the several great alliances...” Zhuo Yalin said, an ugly expression forming on her face when she saw the army of Refinement Realm experts in front of her. At this moment, she even doubted that their team could leave this place safely.

It should be known that their team had passed by many of the several great alliances’ experts on their way here. So long as the Flower of Seven Sins contacted these experts, they could launch a pincer attack on their team.

Ad

“Do we have to enter that place to search for clues relating to the Tier 4 promotion, Guild Leader Black Flame?” Glimmering Sword suddenly asked as she looked at the entrance at the other end of the cavern.

“It should be right there.” Shi Feng nodded.

“In that case, leave it to me to break through here,” Glimmering Sword said as she jumped off her Mount and approached the Crimson Demon Barrier.

“Are you insane, Commander Glimmer?” Liu Wusheng was stunned when he saw Glimmering Sword walking forward by herself. Hurriedly, he said, “That’s not a place you can go by yourself!”

Although Glimmering Sword had reached Level 120 already, the advantages she had in Basic Attributes would be mitigated under the effects of the Crimson Demon Barrier.

“You don’t need to worry, Elder Liu,” Kasio, the three-meter-tall middle-aged man from Glimmer, said with a casual smile. “The commander can handle a battle of this degree all by herself.”

Chapter 3148

Chapter 222 – One Person is Enough!

Boundary Mountain Range, second underground level’s entrance:

Currently, a super-large magic barrier that covered a 1,000-yard radius and was maintained by 324 players had thoroughly enveloped the cavern that led to the Boundary Mountain Range’s second underground level.

“A Crimson Demon Barrier! To think you Five Great Super Guilds would be willing to make such a huge investment!” Thousand Swords, a white-haired old man who had reached Level 110, exclaimed as he looked at the white-robed old man with a graying beard standing next to him. Even though he was around the same age as the gray-bearded old man, he dared not act rashly around the other party.

This was because the old Elementalist was Chiyang Tianhe, the Honorary Elder of one of the Five Great Super Guilds Solar Temple. When Chiyang Tianhe first entered God’s Domain, he was already an old monster only half a step away from the Beyond Domain Realm.

Now that ten years had gone by already, combined with the abundant resources provided by Solar Temple, Thousand Swords couldn't even begin to imagine how strong Chiyang Tianhe had become. It was especially so now that Chiyang Tianhe was standing within a Crimson Demon Barrier.

Ad

The Crimson Demon Barrier was a large-scale Master Magic Array that required 324 Master Magicians to operate. It was one of the best Master Magic Array in God's Domain, and the materials required to form a Crimson Demon Barrier were enough to leave a huge hole in a first-rate Guild's pockets.

In exchange for the exorbitant operational costs, the Crimson Demon Barrier could reduce the Basic Attributes of even Tier 4 Mythic monsters by 30% or more. The barrier was also incredibly sturdy, able to withstand hundreds of attacks from a Mythic monster outside the barrier and double that number from the inside. Moreover, players couldn't teleport while inside the barrier.

Unless a Tier 5 player appeared, the Crimson Demon Barrier was essentially a small yet unshakable fortress.

"The second underground level is worth this price," Chiyang Tianhe, who had reached Level 112 already, said, a faint smile forming on his face as he looked at the Crimson Demon Barrier. "Anyway, I'm quite surprised you would abandon the main continent. It seems World Dominators is quite invested in the Miniature Ancient World. Or have you reached a bottleneck and are trying to find a breakthrough here?"

"Both," Thousand Swords said, not bothering to hide this information. "What about you? Will Solar Temple really be fine letting its Honorary Elder come to the Miniature Ancient World?"

"I'm old. The Guild's youngsters are also becoming more and more talented with every subsequent generation, so I'm confident in leaving the Guild in their hands," Chiyang Tianhe said, chuckling. "Also, it honestly relieves me that World Dominators has withdrawn from Asura. Otherwise, fighting you is going to be a headache."

Ad

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“You don’t need to worry, Elder Liu,” Kasio, the three-meter-tall middle-aged man from Glimmer, said with a casual smile. “The commander can handle a battle of this degree all by herself.”

Chapter 3149

Chapter 223 – A Goddess Appears

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TL Notes:

(23rd-June-2022)

Changes:

Glimmering Sword -> Shimmering Sword (Laura Crader’s nickname/ID)

Glimmer adventurer team -> Shimmer adventurer team

...

“All by herself?”

Liu Wusheng looked at the three-meter-tall man standing in front of him in confusion. If he couldn’t see that Kasio was similarly Level 120 and feel the frightening pressure the other party radiated, he would have absolutely thought that Kasio was joking with him.

Setting the 20,000 Refinement Realm experts aside, just the presence of the three God-ranked experts and the Crimson Demon Barrier was already enough to elevate the defenses of this place to the level of a fortress.

Not to mention, due to the Boundary Mountain Range’s environment, players would expend Stamina and Concentration much quicker. The destructive power of all Skills and Spells would also be severely weakened. While subjected to these penalties, even a God-ranked expert would die from exhaustion if they tried to fight against a force of 1,000 Refinement Realm experts.

“Let’s trust in Commander Shimmer, Elder Liu,” Shi Feng said after thinking it over.

Shi Feng was honestly curious to see how strong Laura Crader was. After all, he had never heard of this name before. Yet, judging by Laura’s achievements in Slumber City, it didn’t make sense that he had never heard of her when Wordless Ember and Sleeping Quicksand had spread their names across the entire Greater God’s Domain.

Since Laura was willing to take action, Shi Feng naturally welcomed it.

Even if Laura ended up not being a match for the enemies, Shi Feng still had the strength to resist the Flower of Seven Sins.

Liu Wusheng stopped speaking after hearing Shi Feng's words. It didn't matter whether they attacked as a team or sent only one person, anyway. Nothing would change with how many powerful enemies they faced.

Meanwhile, Hidden Soul, Crimson Heart, Gentle Snow, Lin Yaoyue, Su Qianliu, and Rampant Blade couldn't help but focus their minds as they watched Laura walking into the distance.

If it was before they had entered the Stratified Abyssal Realm, none of them would believe that a single person could go up against the powerful army before them.

However, after experiencing the Stratified Abyssal Realm, they felt that if it was Laura Crader, the person publicly acknowledged as Slumber City's number one expert many years ago, it might just be possible to accomplish this impossible feat. After all, despite how powerful Solitary Soul, the Death Curse adventurer team's commander, had shown himself to be, he had merely gained the qualifications to challenge Laura. Moreover, that was the Laura Crader of several years ago.

Currently, aside from the Shimmer adventurer team's several vice commanders, probably nobody else knew how strong Slumber City's number one expert was currently.

Now that they had the opportunity to witness Laura in action, they could use this opportunity to gauge how powerful she was exactly.

The Boundary Mountain Range was battered by snowstorms all year round. Even the tunnels underneath the mountain range constantly had freezing winds billowing in them.

As her long, light-blue hair fluttered along with these howling winds, Laura took a deep breath and fixed her gaze on the Crimson Demon Barrier situated a thousand yards away from her. Then, she took a step forward and vanished, leaving behind an afterimage as she charged at the distant barrier like a lightning bolt.

What speed! Galaxy Past was stunned when he saw that Laura had already disappeared from her original location.

Galaxy Past used to be a Tier 5 expert. Even if he was now only at Tier 3, his five senses were so sensitive that he could perceive the movements of Tier 4 Mythic monsters with perfect clarity. Yet, now, none of his senses could keep up with Laura's movements...

...

Meanwhile, inside the Crimson Demon Barrier, the several great alliances' members laughed when they saw a lone figure suddenly approaching their direction.

"Why is that woman walking over by herself? Don't tell me she got scared and is here to surrender?"

"That woman sure is pretty. She can definitely give those publicly acknowledged goddesses a run for their money. It's a pity that she's with the Asura Mercenary Alliance. Even if she comes over to surrender, I doubt the people from the Flower of Seven Sins will spare her."

Nobody was surprised to see the Asura Mercenary Alliance's team halting their advance. After all, anybody who saw their formation would be scared witless.

What they did not expect was for Asura's team to send only one player over. After all, this could only mean one of two things. Either Asura was trying to negotiate or surrender.

However, so long as Asura's team wasn't made up of idiots, they would understand that any negotiations would be futile. In that case, it could only mean that Asura was planning to surrender. After all, this was the only way Asura's team could safely leave the Boundary Mountain Range. Otherwise, death would be the only outcome that awaited the team.

"Foolish! Do they think they can still surrender after all this time?" Death Omen revealed a contemptuous expression as she looked at the approaching Laura Crader. "Wolf, head over with a team and kill her!"

"Understood!" Summer Wolf responded. Then, he quickly organized a team of thirty Flower of Seven Sins core members. In the Boundary Mountain Range, such a team was more than enough to kill a God-ranked expert.

However, before Summer Wolf and his chosen teammates could get on their Mounts, Laura Crader suddenly vanished from everyone's vision, leaving behind only an afterimage and a streak of flowing light.

A God-ranked expert? Death Omen's eyes narrowed, a wary expression appearing on her face. The only players who could move so quickly at Tier 3 that they could escape her senses were God-ranked experts adept at footwork and nobody else.

It seems I have underestimated Asura, Thousand Swords thought to himself, a hint of surprise flashing in his eyes when he saw Laura Crader disappearing. I didn't think there would be another God-ranked expert hidden in Asura. With her level of footwork, few from even the Five Great Super Guilds could match her.

During the brief moment everyone was in a daze, Laura Crader had reappeared above the Crimson Demon Barrier, her light-blue longsword giving off a dazzling glow that brightly illuminated the entire cavern.

"What is she trying to do?"

"Is she trying to attack the Crimson Demon Barrier?"

"Is she trying to make a desperate attempt? The Crimson Demon Barrier can withstand several hundred attacks from even a Mythic monster on the outside. She will only be wasting her Stamina by attacking the barrier."

When the several great alliances' members saw Laura seemingly launching an attack on the Crimson Demon Barrier, they couldn't help but feel that the woman had a few screws loose in her head. After all, rather than utilize her astonishing speed to flee out of the Boundary Mountain Range, Laura was attacking the Crimson Demon Barrier instead. Such an action was beyond foolish.

The next moment, a ray of light, which moved so fast that nobody could react, landed on the Crimson Demon Barrier.

Ping!

Followed by a crisp sound echoing throughout the cavern, a hole the size of a thumb had appeared on the Crimson Demon Barrier. Meanwhile, following this small hole's appearance, cracks began forming all over the barrier.

Subsequently, accompanied by the sound of shattering glass, the entire barrier broke apart into countless particles of light that scattered across the ground.

Meanwhile, before anyone knew it, Laura Crader had already appeared next to the second underground level's entrance, her longsword back in its sheath. At this time, as if time had stopped moving, the whole world fell silent...

Chapter 3150

Chapter 224 – Shimmering Sword

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TL Notes:

Another change (24-June-2022):

Shimmer adventurer team -> Glimmer adventurer team

...

"It shattered..."

When everyone saw the Crimson Demon Barrier disintegrating into particles of light and the woman with light-blue hair standing amidst these light particles, an indescribable sense of shock filled their minds.

The Crimson Demon Barrier had risen to fame on the main continent many years ago.

Back then, before anyone had reached Tier 4, the Crimson Demon Barrier was nicknamed "The Infallible Fortress." It was also the several great alliances' most powerful trump card for monopolizing the Boundary Mountain Range's second level.

Once the Crimson Demon Barrier was deployed, even an army of ten million Tier 3 experts attacking simultaneously couldn't break it. In fact, the barrier would remain unfazed even after taking a hit from a Magic Cannon.

If one were to talk about the Crimson Demon Barrier's flaws, there would only be one—its ridiculous Mana consumption. Not only did the Crimson Demon Barrier require many magical class players to maintain, but it also consumed upwards of 100,000 Magic Crystals per day.

Yet, now, some unknown woman had actually shattered the Crimson Demon Barrier in one hit...

Who is she?

Summer Wolf, who had just climbed onto his Mount, couldn't help but look at Laura Crader in fear and disbelief.

The Boundary Mountain Range's special environment weakened the attacks of all players by a significant margin. Even former Tier 6 God-ranked experts would have difficulty killing peak experts in one move. Out of the experts he had chosen to bring with him, he was confident that any one of them would, at most, lose one-third of their HP when facing an offensive combat technique executed by a God-ranked expert.

With the abilities of Tier 3 healers, it wouldn't take more than two or three seconds to heal a near-death MT to full health. It would take even less time to heal the players he had chosen since all of them were of a DPS class.

This was why he was confident he could whittle even a God-ranked expert to death with his team.

However, Summer Wolf changed his mind after seeing Laura's attack. An attack capable of destroying the Crimson Demon Barrier in one hit was something not even a Tier 3 MT with a Damage Reduction Skill activated could survive.

Moreover, Summer Wolf didn't even manage to see Laura's attack previously. By the time he realized that Laura had released her attack, a small hole had already appeared in the barrier. The speed of the woman's attack was unfathomably fast.

At this time, the several great alliances' members weren't the only ones dumbfounded by this situation, Liu Wusheng, Galaxy Past, and the others were similarly astounded.

It was too fast!

Laura's attack was so fast that none of them had managed to react. For a moment, they even suspected whether Laura was a high-tiered NPC in disguise and whether she was actually a player.

This is the strength of Slumber City's strongest player?

Hidden Soul was deeply shocked as she looked at Laura's distant figure. Although she had long since known that the woman known as Laura Crader would be incredibly powerful, she didn't think it would be to such an extent. Out of all the Tier 6 God-ranked experts she knew, none of them could achieve such speed at Tier 3.

An Advanced Silver Footwork and an Advanced Silver Combat Technique!

Shi Feng was similarly surprised by Laura's performance.

Unlike Hidden Soul and the others, Shi Feng had many years of experience wandering the expansive Greater God's Domain, and he had encountered numerous God-ranked experts during his travels. Thus, he instantly recognized that Laura had only managed to exhibit such speed and power with her attack because she had used an Advanced Silver Combat Technique. Meanwhile, every individual he knew that

had mastered an Advanced Silver Combat Technique was a peerless monster capable of ranking within the Greater God's Domain's Seven Luminaries Ranking List.

Of course, Laura hadn't relied on only an Advanced Silver Combat Technique to break the Crimson Demon Barrier in one hit. On top of that, she had also located the barrier's mana node. The mana node was the convergence point for all of the barrier's Mana. So long as it was destroyed, the barrier's mana flow would crumble.

However, locating a barrier's mana node was incredibly challenging. Even the persons responsible for constructing and maintaining the barrier wouldn't know its location. This was because the mana node's location was constantly changing based on the players maintaining it. Specifically, the node's location changed based on the varying flow rate and strength of the Mana supplied. Moreover, even the smallest of changes could affect the node's location. Meanwhile, with over 300 players operating the Crimson Demon Barrier, trying to locate the mana node's location was nigh-impossible.

This was also why most people deemed that only Tier 4 attacks or above could destroy the Crimson Demon Barrier.

Yet, Laura Crader had located the Crimson Demon Barrier's mana node in the blink of an eye. Her perception and grasp toward mana were simply unbelievable.

After a moment, Shi Feng hurriedly shouted, "The barrier's down! Advance!"

When Liu Wusheng, Galaxy Past, and the others heard this, they promptly snapped out of their dazes and followed Shi Feng to the second underground level's entrance on their Mounts.

An ordinary Tier 3 player sprinting at full speed would only need around thirty seconds to cover a distance of two thousand yards. With the help of a Bronze Mount, they could cover this distance in under ten seconds.

Now that the Crimson Demon Barrier was no longer obstructing the way and the several great alliances' members were still in a daze, this was the perfect opportunity for them to charge into the second underground level.

"Not good! They're charging at the entrance!"

When the several great alliances' members recovered from their shock, Shi Feng's team was already within a thousand yards of the second underground level's entrance.

"Don't even think of getting past us!" When Death Omen saw Shi Feng's team charging for the entrance, she hurriedly shouted, "Wolf, distract them! Everyone else, guard the entrance with your lives!"

At this time, Summer Wolf and his team had already gotten on their Mounts, so they were the most suitable candidates to intercept Shi Feng's team. After all, the average Tier 3 Refinement Realm expert could run nowhere near as fast as a Bronze Mount.

Meanwhile, so long as Summer Wolf's team could buy enough time for a few thousand players to gather at the entrance, they'd be able to take down Shi Feng's team easily.

Meanwhile, Chiyang Tianhe and Ruthless Sky had also promptly made their way to the entrance. Although neither of them had any grievances with the Asura Mercenary Alliance, it was to their benefit to prevent outsiders from entering the second underground level.

If they allowed Asura to freely enter the second underground level, the other alliances that were subjected to the several great alliances' oppression and arrangement would definitely have an opinion and try to secure more entry slots for themselves. They might even try to mimic Asura and forcibly break through.

When Summer Wolf and his team of peak experts had moved within three hundred yards of Shi Feng's team, a figure suddenly appeared before them. This figure was none other than Laura Crader, the person responsible for destroying the Crimson Demon Barrier.

At this time, Laura Crader had already unsheathed the shimmering rapier^[1] she carried around her waist and was poised to strike. Upon seeing this, the members of Summer Wolf's team couldn't help but grow fearful and hesitate.

Noticing his team's anxiety, Summer Wolf shouted, "What are you scared of?! We are in the Boundary Mountain Range, and she is alone! Even if she can kill one of us with every hit, how many times do you think she can repeat that attack?!"

After thinking it over, everyone quickly realized that Summer Wolf's words made sense.

The Boundary Mountain Range's environment not only reduced the standard of players' Stamina but also increased the burden of using Skills, Spells, and combat techniques by several times. Even a God-ranked expert using only basic combat techniques couldn't fight in the Boundary Mountain Range for a long time, much less use combat techniques as powerful as the one Laura had used previously.

Immediately, everyone stopped hesitating and charged at Laura.

However, when Summer Wolf's team resumed its charge, Laura had long since disappeared from her original location, transforming into a streak of flowing light and arriving next to Summer Wolf's in the blink of an eye. Then, she began stabbing and slashing at the mounted players around her, those targeted by her attacks disappearing from their Mounts after getting hit.

Don't even think of getting rid of me so easily!

Summer Wolf hurriedly activated his Tier 3 Berserk Skill Rampant Shadow, the Skill drastically increasing his Attack Speed and reaction speed. It had also increased his Strength and Defense by 100%.

One attack... Two attacks... Three attacks...

With each subsequent attack Summer Wolf blocked, the fear in his heart grew deeper and deeper. This was because he found it increasingly difficult to keep up with Laura's attacks. The feedback he received from the attacks he blocked also grew stronger with every subsequent attack.

By the eighth attack, Summer Wolf could no longer keep up with Laura's speed. He could only watch as Laura's rapier cut across his neck one time after another, continuously draining his HP until nothing was left.

Meanwhile, this entire clash lasted no more than two seconds. From an outsider's perspective, Laura had merely charged into Summer Wolf's team. Then, Summer Wolf and his teammates had suddenly vanished from their Mounts.

After taking care of Summer Wolf's team, Laura sheathed her rapier, jumped into the air, and landed on the back of Shi Feng's Mount. Then, together with Shi Feng's team, she disappeared into the second underground level's entrance...

...