

Magic Era 241

Chapter 241: Heaven Enlightening Plane

Lin Yun didn't have a deep understanding of Vaughn's laboratory. After all, this laboratory was far less famous compared to the treasury on Crystal Island. Lin Yun only remembered some rough details, such as the Crystal Scales, a small treasure trove filled with magic materials, as well as the six abandoned Alchemic Mana Whirlpools. He wasn't too sure what else there was.

But when Lin Yun entered the stone tower, he personally saw Fran fusing with the Crystal Scales. It was at that time that he finally recalled that this wasn't just a treasure trove with the Crystal Scales inside. The most important thing here was a path, a Planar Path.

And it was different from the other Planar Path Lin Yun knew about.

This Planar Path had never truly appeared in Noscent's history. Even the Ivory Tower, which had left the notes, never went through this Planar Path.

In those years, the Ivory Tower set up an expedition to the Crystal Island, and after defeating numerous powerful enemies, they finally seized the Vaughn Treasury. The large quantity of resources and deep techniques helped the Ivory Tower's strength take a leap before letting them take a place among the greatest forces of Noscent.

After seizing Vaughn Treasury, the Ivory Tower kept exploring for twenty more years. One of their Heaven Mages made an unexpected discovery while exploring the area.

That Heaven Mage found some notes Vaughn had left in his treasury. It was written among the notes that Vaughn had found an extremely fertile plane. The description of that plane was quite exaggerated and shocked the entire Ivory Tower. If everything in the notes was true, then that plane was at least ten times more fertile than the Bone Plane!

This was no laughing matter...

Half of the reason the Ivory Tower had been able to rise up was the Bone Plane. At this time, a plane that was likely ten times better than the Bone Plane was mentioned... How could the Ivory Tower let it slip by?

After some intense deliberation, the Ivory Tower got to work and began seeking the trail of that mysterious plane. This took fifty years, and during these fifty years, the Ivory Tower overturned all the ruins and vestiges related to Vaughn.

But they only found some scattered clues.

The only thing they had been able to ascertain was that the key to opening that mysterious plane was a set of Spiritual Magic Tools.

At that time, the Ivory Tower was at its peak, so let alone an insignificant Spiritual Magic Tool set, they could even get a set of True Spirit Magic Tools if needed. At that time, the Ivory Tower posted a bounty with a reward that made even Heaven Mages crazily look for them.

The result only came a few hundred years later.

Those three young Mages who had mistakenly entered the Bone Plane had already reached the top of the Ivory Tower and an entire era had already passed. It was then that news of what they were looking for finally reached the Ivory Tower.

The Ivory Tower was still formidable then.

They used the weight of their full power and unsurprisingly, that set of Spiritual Magic Tools landed in their hands. Heaven Mage Bane personally acted and easily suppressed the Crystal Scales' Incarnation.

In the next decade, Bane spent all his time trying to understand the secrets of the Crystal Scales.

Days passed, and for an entire ten years, Bane did not step out of the Ivory Tower.

When he finally did, something strange came to light.

It turned out that Bane's power hadn't improved the slightest bit, and had actually fallen by one whole rank. That was one entire rank of the Heaven realm. When he suppressed the Crystal Scales' Incarnation, Bane was already a 9th Rank Heaven Mage, but ten years later, Bane walked out of the Ivory Tower as an 8th Rank Heaven Mage.

What frightened others was when they found out that the power of the Crystal Scales seemed to have greatly improved. When it first fell into Bane's hands, it was only a set of Spiritual Magic Tools, but ten years later, it had become a True Spirit Magic Tool set!

This discovery shocked the entire Ivory Tower overnight.

At that time, Bane helplessly told everyone that during these ten years, his mana was constantly being absorbed by the Crystal Scales and that he simply couldn't stop that absorption. During the early years, he could still rely on long periods of meditation to keep up with the rate at which his mana was being absorbed, but in the next few years, the Crystal Scales grew stronger and stronger as they absorbed more and more mana and the fragile equilibrium was broken. His power fell down from that of a 9th Rank Heaven Mage to 8th Rank Heaven Mage, which was when he finally gave up on cracking its secrets.

And thus, a difficult problem was put in front of the Ivory Tower.

Either they could keep trying to find that mysterious plane using the Crystal Scales, or they could try their best to save Bane.

The Ivory Tower quickly made their decision, and they spared no efforts to try to save Bane.

The Crystal Scales ended up being broken and the Magic Tool Incarnation was thoroughly destroyed, freeing Bane from this trouble.

But at the same time, the Ivory Tower forever lost the opportunity to enter that mysterious plane.

The story should have ended there.

But there was one more thing. Although the Crystal Scales had been completely destroyed, many of the Ivory Tower's mages kept looking for clues to enter that mysterious plane, and they managed to find a lot more clues after a dozen years.

Finally, the Ivory Tower had determined the location of the Planar Path. It was in one of Vaughn's laboratories, and the distinctive feature of that laboratory was very obvious. It was a stone tower dedicated to puppet production!

This was also why Lin Yun wasn't envious when Fran acquired the Crystal Scales. He only inwardly smirked.

Fran couldn't imagine how evil the Crystal Scales were. Let alone Fran, even a peak Heaven Mage like Bane, an all-conquering existence holding the Book of Death, had lost a full rank to it, a rank in the Heaven realm.

If Bane ended up like that, then what about an insignificant Fran?

Lin Yun even dared to say that if he really let Fran bring back the Crystal Scales, he wouldn't last a month before being sucked dry, and at that time, let alone Suyass, even Nolan would be unable to help him.

The Crystal Scales were definitely powerful.

Lin Yun knew of numerous Magic Tools, but only the Crystal Scales were that formidable. After all, Fran was only a 5th Rank High Mage, but he forcibly reached the Archmage realm as well as the Artisan realm in the field of alchemy just by possessing them.

Lin Yun had never seen such frightening power amplification in his life.

If it were another Magic Tool, he would unhesitantly give up on the mysterious plane. Even though that mysterious plane was described as incredibly fertile and full of valuables, Lin Yun was never fond of the things he couldn't completely grasp.

In contrast, the Crystal Scales, which could increase his power substantially, truly interested Lin Yun.

It was a pity, then, that the Crystal Scales were too evil. Lin Yun wouldn't be able to control them.

Thus, Lin Yun only hesitated for an instant before quickly making his decision.

He put the two rings on his ring fingers and held the magic staff covered in mysterious runes with both hands. He then felt power surging through his body.

'Human, do you want to become the new master of the Crystal Scales? I can give you endless power, I can give you endless wealth, I can give you...' An enticing voice began to echo in the depths of Lin Yun's mind.

'Shut up!' Lin Yun knew that this was the Crystal Scales' Incarnation. But it chose a different approach than when it deceived Fran. This time, the Crystal Scales chose temptation.

Unfortunately, he was someone who had read about Bane's misfortune.

Otherwise, he might have been tempted by that evil Magic Tool Incarnation.

After coldly snorting, Lin Yun started pouring mana into the Crystal Scales, and under the surge of mana, the two rings started flickering with fascinating lights. While the staff seemed to remain dark, the joint exploration team could feel the power being gathered within it.

Mysterious and abstruse characters were spat out from Lin Yun's mouth. These were the results of Bane's ten years of research. These characters formed a deep and cryptic incantation. As Lin Yun chanted the incantation, his voice started reverberating louder and louder as the lights from the rings grew increasingly more dazzling. At the same time, the power gathering within the magic staff was poured out like a flood.

'Open for me!' Lin Yun ended his incantation with the mysterious character from the Book of Death. The light from the two rings instantly darkened while the originally dark magic staff suddenly blossomed with an incomparably dazzling radiance, illuminating the entire treasure trove.

Then, everyone watched as Lin Yun gently raised the staff, before softly slashing down through nothingness.

And a Planar Path was opened.

This Planar Path was completely different from any of the Planar Paths Lin Yun had opened before. The space all around was distorted to the extreme, and even the Planar Path itself seemed to be fluctuating, as if it could disappear anytime.

The extremely powerful mana fluctuations coming from the entrance of the Planar Path were even more frightening.

'The Ivory Tower didn't spend those hundred years in vain...' Lin Yun stood at the entrance of the Planar Path, feeling a bit apprehensive as he felt the huge amount of mana coming from within.

At this time, Lin Yun was already certain that this plane was definitely at least ten times more fertile than the Bone Plane.

After all, those mana fluctuations were very intense despite coming from the other side of the Planar Path. From its name, a Planar Path sounded like it should connect two planes very closely, but in reality, it was a long passage linking two different spaces. The distance between the two places could be described as endless. How powerful did these mana fluctuations have to be to spread from such a distant place?

'Hold on...' While Lin Yun was feeling apprehensive, a golden light attracted his attention from the ripples of the Planar Path.

If one didn't pay attention, they wouldn't notice that golden light within that distorted space.

Lin Yun had managed to see it, and he instantly recognized it.

'No way...' This discovery stunned Lin Yun, and he stood there speechless.

"What is it, Merlin?" Solomon, who was next to him, noticed his strange reaction.

He had a great understanding of that young Great Mage, and it could be said that Solomon had never seen anyone or anything that could make this young Great Mage show such an expression.

But now, that young Great Mage was standing there gaping, shock written all over his face.

"Nothing..." Lin Yun shook his head before regaining his calm.

Only Lin Yun knew of the storm raging in his heart.

Because Lin Yun had found out that this Planar Path might be leading to the Heaven Enlightening Plane.

What was the Heaven Enlightening Plane?

In the void, amidst the countless planes, it was the extreme, the end and the beginning. The Heaven Enlightening Plane was the origin of everything, and it was also the final destination of everything. In Noscent's many years of history, countless races rose and countless races fell. But regardless of the race, they all mentioned the existence of the Heaven Enlightening Plane in their legends. This was a plane that had become divine and was often known to people as the Divine Plane or as the Mythical Plane.

Moreover, the legends of every race described this as a golden plane. Every race stubbornly believed that the Heaven Enlightening Plane was a mythical world and that anyone who entered it would obtain endless power and eternal life. Some race even regarded the Heaven Enlightening Plane as the plane of Deities.

But that was proved to be ridiculous years later.

At the peak of the magic era, over two dozen Gods died, including the Haiba Dragon God, who had been revered by the royal family of the 3rd Dynasty. In that era, killing Gods wasn't impossible, yet they still found that the Heaven Enlightening Plane was far, far out of reach.

That was the origin and the end of everything, it was the world's ultimate land.

But unfortunately, whether it was a God Plane or a Mythical Plane, that mysterious plane that appeared in countless legends never truly appeared. They could only catch a shadow of that plane through those grotesque legends.

Lin Yun knew that in Noscent's long history, the ones closest to the Heaven Enlightening Plane were the group of bright stars that shone in the peak of the magic era, those Heaven Rank powerhouses that appeared in large numbers. The Deities that used to be omnipotent, the nightmarish Demon Lords from the Abyss, they all fell one after the other when facing powerhouses like Sandro the Sovereign of Death, Charles the Conqueror, and Martin the Sky Knight.

At that time, there had been a Heaven Rank powerhouse who was said to have caught a trace of the Heaven Enlightening Plane as he travelled through the void between planes.

That discovery shocked the entirety of Noscent and stirred countless powerhouses into action. They all rushed towards the void hoping to see it, hoping to set foot into the land of the beginning and the end.

Unfortunately, no one succeeded.

A large number of powerhouses fell in the void, but the legendary Heaven Enlightening Plane still remained a legend.

Chapter 242: Corpse

Lin Yun remembered the common feature used to describe the Planar Path leading to Heaven Enlightening Plane in all the sources, which was a thread overflowing with a golden aura. Lin Yun slowly crouched down next to the Planar Path and stared at that thread.

This time, Lin Yun didn't use the Magic Array to analyze it. Instead, he looked through his pocket and fished out a bottle of Angel Potion.

He opened the bottle and placed it near the golden aura. The potion instantly started boiling while an intense aura of life filled the treasure trove.

'Sure enough, it is the Heaven Enlightening Plane...' Lin Yun was already more than 90% sure that this Planar Path was leading to the plane everyone yearned for.

Only the golden aura from the Heaven Enlightening Plane contained such intense mana as well as such a strong aura of life.

It could be seen from that bottle of Angel Potion. The structure of the Angel Potion Lin Yun crafted was far stabler than what an ordinary alchemist could make, yet such a stable potion instantly became greatly agitated. And this could only happen in one case, which was if high-intensity mana was poured into it; only that could cause fluctuations in the structure of the Angel Potion and make it flare up.

And with that, along with the strong aura of life, Lin Yun could more or less acknowledge the existence of the Heaven Enlightening Plane.

After figuring this out, Lin Yun couldn't help sighing. 'I truly didn't think that the Planar Path to the famous yet unseen Heaven Enlightening Plane would appear in underground ruins in the Four Seasons Canyon.

"Merlin, where does this Planar Path lead?" As Lin Yun was immersed in his thoughts, Solomon and Lys couldn't help feeling curious.

They were already getting used to the situation.

Since they entered the treasury trove, strange things kept happening. First was the appearance of the large hoard of magic materials, followed by Fran entering the Archmage Realm, before he was incinerated by the 9th Rank Great Mage Merlin. And just after all this happened, the young Great Mage used Fran's set of Magic Tools to open a Planar Path.

It was as if a brand new world spread in front of everyone.

Solomon and Lys could be considered extremely knowledgeable, but these strange things happening one after the other made the two peak High Mages of Thousand Sails City rather curious.

"This Planar Path..." Lin Yun thought for a moment before continuing, "This Planar Path leads to a mythical plane. A grain of sand or a drop of water from that place could be considered a priceless treasure in Noscent..."

"..." Solomon and Lys couldn't help looking at each other while holding their breaths when they heard Lin Yun's exaggerated description.

They had a very good understanding of that young Great Mage. The Gilded Rose was already monopolizing Thousand Sails City's alchemy market and had amassed an enormous amount of wealth in less than a year. It probably wouldn't be inaccurate to consider him the wealthiest person in Thousand Sails City.

But now, the richest youth in Thousand Sails City was saying that the value of that plane far surpassed what they could imagine.

Moreover...

From the young Great Mage's serious expression, the two guessed that the value of the plane might far surpass the value of those priceless magic materials filling the treasure trove.

It took a while for the two to recover.

It felt as if they had been casually walking down a street when a pile of golds suddenly appeared in front of them. This was incredible... They had originally thought that these magic materials had been the greatest reward from the expedition, but they didn't expect to find an even more valuable plane.

Thinking of this, their eyes couldn't help shining.

"However..."

Lin Yun's next sentence was akin to pouring cold water on their faces. "That mythical plane is also filled with unimaginable dangers..."

"Who is afraid of dangers?" Solomon said disapprovingly when he heard that. "Wasn't Vaughn's laboratory filled with dangers? Didn't we still make it here?"

"No, High Mage Solomon, that place is different. No matter how dangerous this laboratory was, it was only a place left by an Artisan. The strongest thing here would be Heaven rank at most, but the plane behind that Planar Path has never been seen before. No one knows what dangers awaits us."

"Maybe there will be no dangers."

"Haha, High Mage Solomon, you should come and stand here." Lin Yun beckoned to Solomon. When Solomon reached Lin Yun with a baffled expression, Lin Yun told him, "Try to feel the mana fluctuations here..."

"Eh?" Solomon was surprised, but he listened to Lin Yun and started sensing the mana fluctuations with a heavy heart.

Then, that peak High Mage's complexion worsened.

"Heavens..." Near the Planar Path's entrance, the dense mana fluctuations had already surpassed what Solomon had imagined from Lin Yun's warnings. They were far too terrible. Solomon couldn't even understand how there could be a power that could still leave such shocking mana fluctuations after crossing a long distance and passing through a spatial distortion.

Solomon then knew that he had said something stupid.

A plane that had such power... Even if it was empty, it definitely wasn't a place a High Mage could casually set foot on. And it wouldn't be too far off to say that a snowflake carried by a breeze in such a place could easily destroy a Great Mage. That was no laughing matter, a power of that level was too shocking.

Solomon finally understood why that young Great Mage said that this was a mythical plane.

Because surely only omnipotent Gods could reside on such a formidable plane.

Solomon was unable to say anything for a moment, and after no less than a minute, he managed to ask Lin Yun with a deathly pale face. "Merlin, what... What kind of plane is this?"

"You can call it the Mythical Plane."

"Then we... we..." Solomon no longer dared to talk about the dangers. It could no longer be described as merely dangerous. Walking in a higher plane like this was akin to walking on the edge of a blade or swimming through lava. Hoping to be able to come back in one piece was already very optimistic.

"Everyone decide for yourself. The wealth of that plane far surpasses what you can imagine. Just as I said, a drop of water or a speck of sand would become a priceless treasure in Noscent. But at the same time, the dangers far surpass what you could think of. One moment of carelessness and even an Archmage would easily fall."

The treasure trove fell silent after Lin Yun's words.

The twenty members of the joint exploration all sank into deep contemplation. This was a very difficult choice. On one side was endless wealth, and on the other was very likely death. Even William, Solomon, and Lys, those who trusted Lin Yun the most, didn't dare to make their decisions right away.

"I shall withdraw." The first to withdraw was that Elder of the Monchi Family. The Monchi Family could be said to be the one exerting the least effort in this joint exploration. They would most likely receive the smallest share after returning to Thousand Sails City. Since that was the case, why would they bother braving such dangers?

Naturally, that Elder had some darker thoughts and schemes in mind.

Such as...

'Since the plane behind that Planar Path is so dangerous, then wouldn't my Monchi Family be able to keep everything here if the others all fell?'

Naturally, he only dared to think about such matters privately.

"I'll also withdraw..." To everyone's surprise, Sauss was the second one to demur.

After all, Sauss was the leader of Thousand Sails City's strongest underground power, and he was famous for being adventurous. When he was still a more roguish fellow, he even dared to stab a guard of Thousand Sails City. No one thought that he would have so little courage a few dozen years later.

But Lin Yun smiled as he looked at Sauss.

Because Lin Yun knew that after the Viper Nest obtained the Magic Spring Potion, they had accelerated their expansion and would soon approach the temple of the Haiba Dragon God. How could Sauss take risks when he was about to strike it rich anyways?

“Merlin, what are your plans?” Solomon asked after a difficult struggle.

Lin Yun thought for a moment. “If there is nothing unexpected, I will go in and take a look. After all, it is a never-before-seen plane. Even if I can’t get any benefits inside, being able to leave some coordinate markers would be good, and maybe when there is another useful opportunity...”

“Then I’ll go with you.”

“So will I.”

“Cousin, I’ll follow you.”

Many people answered once Lin Yun shared his decision. Solomon, Lys, William... Even the Draconic Beastman that only interested in saving his own neck reacted after hearing Lin Yun. He sullenly asked, “Sir Merlin, can you cancel my contract before heading towards your death?”

“What are you saying?”

“Err... I’ll follow you inside...” The Draconic Beastman wept as he watched the people that were still hesitating, his heart filled with jealousy. ‘You should be content with your own situations. You still have the choice to go or not to go, while I don’t even have the right to choose...’

The joint exploration team quickly split into two groups.

There were a total of eight people unwilling to enter the Planar Path. Besides that Elder from the Monchi Family and Sauss, there was also Cadgar, who had always had good relations with Lin Yun.

The rest of Lin Yun’s closer acquaintances were willing to take the risk him.

Solomon, Lys, William, Xiuban, Sasu... And to everyone’s surprise, the two from the Mercury Tower, Suyass and Fran, actually chose to join in. When the two expressed their opinions, even Lin Yun was startled. There was no issue with Suyass, but what about Fran? Two of his fingers had been cut off, so where did he get such courage?

In fact, this confusion was due to Lin Yun not fully understanding the Mercury Tower.

Fran had always been a bit marginalized in the Mercury Tower. This time, he had rushed to his own doom and had two fingers cut off. Eventually, Suyass had to pay a huge price to save his life. After returning, Fran was bound to suffer a very strict punishment. Even if Nolan didn’t say anything, Suyass would definitely have him suffer the consequences.

Now, the only opportunity Fran had was this newly opened Planar Path. If he luckily obtained some benefits, it would count as a great contribution. Even just quietly recording that mysterious plane’s coordinates and bringing them back to the Mercury Tower would be enough to make up for the mistake he had just made.

Unfortunately...

Fran still hadn't understood that this "Mythical Plane" was different from any plane he'd ever known about.

The biggest difference was the key.

A plane on the level of the Heaven Enlightening Plane wasn't a plane that could be opened by just any power. Even the Crystal Scales Lin Yun had used could only open it once. Afterwards, they would lose their power and turn into ordinary objects.

Naturally, this was something only Lin Yun knew.

Only he knew that the two rings he wore and the magic staff he held no longer had any wisps of mana within. The whole set of heaven-defying Magic Tools had now become an ordinary item.

In other words, he only had one opportunity to enter the Heaven Enlightening Plane. Even if Fran recorded the coordinates, he wouldn't have the opportunity to return.

Unless Fran could find another key to open the Heaven Enlightening Plane.

Soon, Lin Yun's group was ready and only left behind those eight people unwilling to take the risk. However, they also had their own mission. They were in charge of sorting the magic materials and distributing them according to the agreement and then subdividing them based on everyone's contribution.

In any case, they were all from Thousand Sails City. They weren't worried about others stuffing their pockets because they could always gang up on the thieving ones.

Naturally...

This wouldn't be the same if Lin Yun's group wasn't able to survive that mysterious plane.

Lin Yun entered first. After all, the ones who decided to take the risk had been 99% convinced to go because of him.

Just as he entered the Planar Path, Lin Yun could immediately tell that this mysterious and incomprehensible plane was different from any he had seen before. The Planar Path was too long.

Lin Yun advanced for three minutes and still didn't see the end.

Planar Paths were used to distort space. Regardless of how far a plane was, after the Planar Path distorted the space between them, it would be within reach and he should be able to arrive there nearly instantly. But now, Lin Yun had already walked down the Planar Path for a full three minutes. This meant that the Heaven Enlightening Plane's distance from Noscent was unimaginable.

After another three minutes, Lin Yun caught sight of a faint light.

Then, that light grew brighter and brighter. It started like a firefly, but it soon looked like the sun rising from the east. Even Lin Yun was amazed as light started blooming in front of him and it felt as if that Planar Path was illuminated by the light of day!

Lin Yun subconsciously raised his hand to cover his eyes.

But he froze just as he raised his right hand.

“This...” At this time, Lin Yun simply didn’t dare to believe in his own eyes because he found a corpse at his feet!

Lin Yun stood stock still in shock. This was too freaky. Lin Yun never imagined that he would meet a withered body halfway through the Planar Path.

‘What is this?’ Lin Yun stood there for a long time, before cautiously crouching down to examine the withered corpse. The corpse was just next to his feet. He had missed it before because of the light, but after shielding his eyes, he had suddenly noticed it.

That corpse seemed to belong to a Human Mage because of the black robe wrapped around it. Although there weren’t any fierce mana fluctuation coming from that corpse, Lin Yun, as a Master Alchemist, could clearly see that this robe had once been a True Spirit Magic Tool.

But something had happened over the course of time, and the Incarnation had already dissipated. Its mana was also exhausted, so it was only an ordinary mage robe at this point.

After seeing this, Lin Yun was more and more curious about the identity of that corpse.

After all, a True Spirit Magic Tool wasn’t something that could casually be obtained.

Star Sage Jouyi had high status and was very powerful, but even then, it would be really hard for him to take out a True Spirit Magic Tool.

Chapter 243: Silver Moon Elves

Only the unconventional Master Alchemist and Great Mage Lin Yun, whose only worry was which treasure trove to dig, had no issue taking out a True Spirit Magic Tool.

Any other Great Mage wouldn’t have dared to think about it.

A True Spirit Magic Tool had the power of an Archmage. Even a Magic Apprentice could at least stand up to an Archmage if they had one of these. The Upper Rank Flame Spirit was a good example, its power scaring even Suyass.

Who in Thousand Sails City had a True Spirit Magic Tool, apart from Lin Yun? The powerful Solomon, the learned Lys, the rich Cadgar, could they even possess a True Spirit Magic Tool?

Even the Cloud Tower, as one of the two strongest forces of mages in the kingdom, only had two or three True Spirit Magic Tools. Lin Yun had to crack the Fanrusen Formula to borrow the Black Death Rune. That wasn’t a simple job. After being busy for a few days, he spent an all-nighter to crack the core spell matrices.

From this, it could be seen how much importance the Cloud Tower attached to the Black Death Rune.

It could be said that in Noscent’s history, nobody insignificant ever managed to control a True Spirit Magic Tool. The weakest ones were at the Archmage realm and could definitely be considered powerhouses.

And as he thought of this, Lin Yun was even more curious about the identity of that corpse.

But...

As Lin Yun wanted to keep checking the corpse to find more clues, he discovered that the trail was cut off.

At first, Lin Yun wanted to use the Magic Array to analyze the remaining mana fluctuations on the corpse, but he quickly discovered that this corpse didn't have the slightest mana fluctuations.

'What is this?' That discovery immediately stunned Lin Yun. 'How could an Archmage powerhouse not leave any remnants of mana fluctuations after death? That's illogical...'

The Mage stage was about condensing the Mana Whirlpool, the Great Mage Stage was about condensing the Magic Conducting Runes, the High Mage Stage was about merging the nine Magic Conducting Runes into one and fusing with it. From that stage, it was no longer as simple as transferring mana. At that time, the power would come from the High Mage himself. In that realm, High Mages were no longer dependent on the environment and could even resist the suppression of some Laws.

As for the Archmage stage, it was something else altogether. Archmages were on another level of existence. Even after death, an archmage's mana wouldn't decay as long as their body didn't decay either.

Thus, Lin Yun felt strange...

'Why? The corpse hasn't completely decayed, so why are there no signs of the remnants of mana?'

If not for the True Spirit Magic Robe, Lin Yun wouldn't have believed that the person that died there was an Archmage, as this was simply unbelievable.

'How could it be?' Lin Yun thought about it and couldn't find a reasonable explanation. 'Did I make a mistake, was he someone like me, already possessing a True Spirit Magic Tool before reaching the Archmage realm?'

But this conjecture was suddenly invalidated.

Because Lin Yun turned the body and found another True Spirit Magic Tool under the corpse.

Two True Spirit Magic Tools!

Cold sweat trickled down Lin Yun's back.

A powerhouse that possessed two True Spirit Magic Tools... If he was comparable to Suyass when he was alive, then he would definitely have the qualifications to challenge Star Sage Jouyi!

That was power close to the Heaven realm.

How great was the Heaven realm? Even during the peak of the Magic Era, the Heaven realm represented the top of Noscent, it already represented the highest level of mages, the peak of mana control, the peak of magical power. When compared to Heaven mages, powerhouses such as the Sovereign of Death and the Sky Knight could only be said to have a more profound understanding of Laws. When it came to pure power, they weren't much stronger than Heaven Mages.

But someone that had at least been infinitely close to that realm ended up on this Planar Path.

No matter how hard Lin Yun thought, he couldn't understand what had happened, why there would be a corpse like this on a Planar Path.

Lin Yun then spent almost half an hour examining that corpse, but he didn't find anything worth his attention.

In the end, Lin Yun had no choice but to shake his head before standing up and telling the group of people waiting behind him, "Let's go..."

They then restarted their very long walk.

But because of the corpse they had found before, the mood of the whole group was quite stifling. No one talked on the way, leaving behind an eerie silence.

Until half an hour later.

The group kept pressing forward under that dazzling light, and what awaited them ahead was a vast expanse of white, as if they had sunk into an ocean of light. There seemed to be no end to it.

"Merlin, Merlin, look, quick..." Half an hour later, Badrack exclaimed in surprise.

That 9th Rank Divine Archer had innately outstanding vision. He had the best eyesight in the group when magic and special abilities were taken out of the picture. Especially in that sea of light, the only one that could still see normally was Badrack.

"Hmm?" Lin Yun was surprised by Badrack's reaction and cast True Sight. Under the protection of the spell, his sight could pierce through the dazzling light. He followed Badrack's finger and couldn't help exclaiming in surprise.

"No way..."

"Merlin, what's going on?" Solomon sounded a bit worried.

"Look there..." Lin Yun didn't answer and only pointed forward.

"Let me see." Solomon also cast True Sight, before being stunned.

A dozen bodies lay about a kilometer in front of them, thin and frail, with mysterious and gorgeous natural mana patterns. They looked beautiful as if they had been carved out of Moonstone, but seemed almost ethereal. Those... were the corpses of Silver Moon Elves!

Silver Moon Elves were one of the four pure-blooded Elven races.

Several dozen millennia before, Charles the Emperor destroyed the Throne of Life and dropped the curtain on the Silver Era. The last pure-blooded Elves and Dragons left Noscent and sailed the Jade Boat to the endless void. No pure-blooded Elf was ever seen in Noscent again since then.

Nowadays, only the Gold Elves and the Silver Elves remained in Noscent. They weren't pure-blooded Elves, though. In the distant Silver Era, the Gold Elves and the Silver Elves were only the servants of the pure-blooded Elves, and their status at the time wasn't any higher than that of the other races.

The greatest difference between them was the presence of mysterious and gorgeous natural mana patterns on their bodies.

If the power of the Dragons came from their bloodlines, then the power of the Silver Moon Elves came from their natural mana patterns. These mana patterns gave the Silver Moon Elves extraordinary power at birth. They were natural mages and would have the power of a Great Mage from the day they were born. They would normally reach the realm of High Mages at adulthood. In other words, the lowest of the lowest soldiers of the Nesser Dynasty's magic corps were High Mages at the very least.

Fortunately, these magic corps were few in number.

Even during the peak of the Nesser Dynasty, the magic corps didn't have more than five thousands soldiers.

But even so, it was terrible.

After all, given that the lowest were at the High Mage rank, the ones high up in the military ladder... Which of them wasn't an Archmage or a Heaven Mage?

Not to mention that they were allied to Dragons.

In the present day, the power of the Nesser Dynasty would be enough to sink the world in despair.

It was an irresistible power.

Many people were still curious... How did Charles the Emperor destroy the Throne of Life? How did he end such a formidable dynasty?

But unfortunately, the 3rd Dynasty was already buried in the ground. Countless valuable materials had already been buried in the sands of time. After ten thousand years, could the offspring of the 3rd Dynasty still remember how Charles, their deceased ancestor, achieved such a feat?

"How could it be like this?" A while later, Lin Yun frowned and stood up.

'It's just like before...'

No mana fluctuations could be found coming from the corpses of the dozen Silver Moon Elves. Lin Yun could only estimate from their natural mana patterns that they hadn't been low in status when they were alive. They might even have been quite high up in the military ladder. In other words, they might have been Archmages or Heaven Mages...

This discovery made Lin Yun remain silent for a very long time.

The Human mage that had two True Spirit Magic Tools had already stunned Lin Yun, but Lin Yun hadn't expected that a mere half an hour later, he would find corpses that he suspected to be Archmages and Heaven Mages.

'What terrible place is hidden behind that Planar Path?'

But before Lin Yun could recover from the shock brought about by those corpses, a huge monster in the distance made cold sweat trickle down Lin Yun's back.

“Dragon!”

Chapter 244: Green Dragon

It was a colossus the size of a small mountain with scales sparkling like beryl and a huge and powerful body. It was an Adult Green Dragon lying on the Planar Path. Even though it was a few hundred meters away, Lin Yun could still feel enormous pressure from being near it.

“Heavens...” Lin Yun held his breath as he wiped the sweat trickling down his forehead.

In the legends, during the Silver Era, the pure-blooded Elves ruled the earth while the Chromatic Dragons ruled the sky. That was the Dynasty of Elves and Dragons. But after Charles the Emperor shattered that throne, both the Elves and the Dragons sailed the Jade Boat to leave to the void.

But the Chromatic Dragons were different from the pure-blooded Elves. They had many descendants still living in Noscent, and many legends would contain the shadow of Chromatic Dragons.

But that was only in legends.

In fact, the Chromatic Dragons stood at the top of the food chain in Noscent, representing tyrannical power. In all legends and epics, Chromatic Dragons were the ultimate existences. Many people believed that the Chromatic Dragons were the descendants of the Haiba Dragon God who was born along with Noscent.

Every Chromatic Dragon was a Heaven Rank existence and could easily destroy cities and nations. They weren't beings that humans could fight against.

Let alone Chromatic Dragons, even a common Dragon would have the power of an Archmage, and that Bone Dragon in the Bone Plane was only the remains of a Dragon that had died countless years ago and turned into an Undead under the influence of the undead energy.

But such an Undead lifeform could still force Lin Yun to use the Book of Death.

If Lin Yun hadn't fused the Sage Chapter to activate the Book of Death and obtain the ability to open a Planar Path, he would no longer be among the living.

And what stood in front of them was a Green Dragon!

One of the five types of Chromatic Dragons!

Lin Yun was feeling feverish.

Green Dragons weren't easy to deal with.

They were also known as Jade Dragons and were guardians of nature and order, existences on the side of good amidst the Chromatic Dragons.

But one shouldn't overlook that the nature and order that Green Dragons and Elves guarded was absolute order and nature. In their eyes, Humans were destroyers of nature and order. If they woke up that Green Dragon, they would be welcomed with a Dragon Breath.

'Hmm, but something is wrong...' As Lin Yun grew apprehensive, a sudden thought came to his mind.

Not a single lifeform they had met on the Planar Path had been alive.

The Human was dead.

The pure-blooded Elves were corpses.

'Then... Is that Green Dragon also dead?'

As that idea sprung in his mind, Lin Yun cast a Detect Life spell.

This was the most suitable spell for the situation. As a guardian of nature and order, the Green Dragon would scatter a large amount of life energy, so that Detect Life spell should react even a few hundred meters away.

'Eh...' Amazement appeared on Lin Yun's face when he cast it. 'Not a single wisp of life energy...'

Lin Yun finally calmed down. He cast a few buffs on himself to prepare for any eventuality while walking towards that behemoth.

There was still no reaction from his Detect Life spell when Lin Yun reached the body of the Green Dragon. At that time, Lin Yun was certain that this Green Dragon was dead.

No, it wasn't just dead...

Besides not having a single bit of life aura left, that Green Dragon's corpse was also devoid of mana fluctuations. At that time, the look on Lin Yun's face was a bit off.

This was all a bit too illogical.

On their way, they had already seen the corpses of three different races: a Human, pure-blooded Elves, and a Green Dragon. These corpses had one thing in common, which was a complete lack of mana fluctuations.

In other words, no power was left in these corpses.

This was very strange because these three races had completely different sources of power.

The power of Human mages came from their Mana Whirlpools, the power of the pure-blooded Elves came from their natural mana patterns, and the power of the Dragons came from their bloodlines. Even if they met an unforeseen event after dying, it shouldn't look like this, where not a single trace was left.

'Could there be something strange in this Planar Path that could absorb power like the Crystal Scales? No way...' Lin Yun couldn't help feeling a bit scared, and he subconsciously examined his surroundings.

It felt wrong.

Lin Yun could clearly feel that his mana had seen no changes. It was exactly the same as when he first entered and showed no signs of being absorbed.

Moreover...

One Human Mage, a dozen pure-blooded Elves, and one Green Dragon... How did they die here? What terrible thing was hidden behind that Planar Path, why were they unable to resist and left dead here like nobodies?

After all, regardless of whether it was that Human holding two True Spirit Magic Tools, those dozen pure-blooded Elves that were Archmages or Heaven Mages, or that Green Dragon that was Heaven Rank at the very least, they were all very formidable existences. Even if they were around at the peak of the Magic Era, ten thousand years in the future, their deaths would create quite a stir.

'How come no information about this spread out? This isn't just one or two... It's over a dozen...

'The death of so many formidable existences, how come there was no information about it?'

Lin Yun kept thinking and thinking, posing numerous questions to himself, but they all went unanswered. At this time, Lin Yun couldn't help forcing a smile. Besides curiosity towards the Heaven Enlightening Plane, he felt some awe.

He felt that this might be a place that mortals truly couldn't set foot in.

The rest of the group waited patiently for a while, and when they heard that this Green Dragon was dead, they became very excited. They all knew that a Dragon was like a huge treasure, especially a high ranked Chromatic Dragons like the Green Dragon. Its entire body was a treasure. Even one drop of blood or one scale would be very precious.

The group immediately started discussing among themselves about how they should divide that Green Dragon.

But unfortunately for them, halfway through their conversation, Lin Yun interrupted them.

In fact, Lin Yun didn't say anything.

He just casually cast a Wind Blade.

That Wind Blade easily cut through the Green Dragon's abdomen, and the sparkling beryl-like scales that were comparable to the defense of True Spirit Magic Tools were unable to resist the simple spell.

The group was stunned.

"Shit, a waste of time..." Solomon indignantly cursed.

They clearly saw that the corpse was unable to handle a Wind Blade. Those "precious" magic materials wouldn't sell well even as decorations... It had to be a fake of some sort.

"Haha..." Lin Yun chuckled before walking on ahead.

But there were still questions in Lin Yun's mind.

The path ahead was very long...

As the white light grew more and more dazzling, Lin Yun could feel an incomparable power coming from it. But that power was offset by the distortion of the Planar Path. In other words, they were all protected

by the Planar Path. Otherwise, just a wisp of that white light would be enough to instantly kill half of their group.

They would still meet one or two corpses on the path here or there, Humans, Elves, Beastmen, Dwarves, and even some Undead... On the way, Lin Yun saw corpses of nearly all of Noscent's intelligent races, and they all had the same thing in common. Not a wisp of power was left in their bodies.

Time had already lost its meaning, and Lin Yun even forgot how long they had been walking for...

It might have been a day, maybe two...

Yet another new corpse appeared before them when Lin Yun began to think that they had become lost on the Planar Path.

But that corpse was different from the others.

That corpse was standing.

He was holding a long magic staff in his right hand and was holding a huge gem in his left hand. These were two True Spirit Magic Tools that had lost their power. Lin Yun had already become numb to seeing those depleted True Spirit Magic Tools on the way, as he had found no less than ten of them. It was to the point that Lin Yun was wondering whether Noscent's True Spirit Magic Tools had all been lost on this Planar Path.

But the True Spirit Magic Tools weren't the important part.

The truly important part was that Lin Yun recognized that corpse!

White beard, white hair, an aged appearance. He looked like an ordinary old man, but his eyes were covered by a piece of black cloth.

"Sky Eyes Oliver..." Lin Yun didn't even need to remove that black cloth. He knew that there would be a pair of sky blue eyes underneath.

He could recognize him from his distinct style of attire.

Chapter 245: Ascian Runes

Sky Eyes Oliver was one of the most legendary Heaven Rank Mages from the middle of the 3rd Dynasty, and his influence impacted the entire era.

The Mage Eye that almost every mage mastered these days had been the masterpiece of that Heaven Mage. Oliver was called Sky Eyes because of his unique eyes mentioned in all kinds of legends from the 3rd Dynasty.

It was said that his sky blue eyes could see through the fabric of reality, through the fog of time, and even follow the path of fate. In his heyday, Oliver was the most powerful Astrologian of the empire, and even the emperor himself would act like a student in front of Oliver.

But in his later years, Oliver was very unfortunate.

Many people thought that because of seeing such things while only having a mortal body, Oliver suffered from the judgement of fate. By the age of eighty, Oliver had already gone insane. He would shut himself in his tower, crazily researching Ascian Runes and would spend years without leaving his tower. Even if he occasionally stepped out, he didn't look like a human, more like a ghost. He didn't have the same grace he had in the past and would crazily mutter, "Run! Run! He is approaching..."

At first, many people asked him who that "he" was.

But soon, people found out that this kind of question would agitate Oliver even more. A crazy Heaven Mage was simply a disaster to the empire. It triggered huge disturbances every time. One time, Oliver almost killed the emperor on the spot.

Fortunately, the three Court Mages acted and kept the irrational Oliver under control.

The emperor took into account the great contributions that Oliver had brought to the empire and didn't punish the Sky Eyes Mage that had fallen to madness. He sent some people to escort Oliver back to his tower and then had his three Court Mages seal the tower.

This disguised imprisonment lasted for a hundred years.

During that century, Oliver didn't try to leave his tower. Someone would visit him from time to time, but they didn't find any differences. Oliver was crazily researching information about the Ascian Dynasty while mumbling.

"Run! Run! He is approaching..."

But this time, no one asked him for any clarification...

After an entire century, Oliver still remained in that state of madness. As years passed, people already forgot about Oliver's existence. Up until a century later, when the new emperor succeeded the throne and suddenly wanted to see the Sky Eyes that shook the empire.

Under the protection of the three Court Mages, the emperor stepped into Oliver's tower.

There, they found out that Oliver had gone missing.

This had been world-shaking news at the time. How frightening was a crazy Heaven Mage? The three Court Mages had seen it with their own eyes. The empire got ready as if they were preparing to fight an overwhelming enemy, and flyers spread through the empire as they started looking for traces of Oliver.

But...

Oliver seemed to have vanished. The empire searched for a decade but didn't find any trace of him.

Years slowly passed...

Ultimately, Oliver's disappearance became the unsolved mystery of the empire, and Sky Eyes Oliver never reappeared in the countless years following the destruction of the empire...

'That...' Lin Yun didn't think that he would find Sky Eyes Oliver here after countless years.

At this time, Lin Yun didn't even know how he should react.

'How could it be Oliver? But... The Astrology Magic Staff in the right hand, and the Divining Stone in the left... There is only one person in Noscent that held these two True Spirit Magic Tools, Sky Eyes Oliver...'

Lin Yun didn't even need to remove that black cloth.

Because he knew that this black cloth was covering the vaunted Sky Eyes that could see through the fabric of reality, through the fog of time, and even follow the path of fate.

Lin Yun stood there just looking at the body for no less than ten minutes.

Finally, Lin Yun suddenly recalled that he should confirm Oliver's death.

Naturally, that confirmation wasn't really necessary.

As Lin Yun expected, that Heaven Rank Mage had already died a long time ago, just like the previous powerhouses that they had met on the path. Although his corpse hadn't decayed, there was no trace of power remaining.

At this point, Lin Yun slowly regained his calm.

'Looks like just as people conjectured, Sky Eyes Oliver set foot on an unknown Planar Path after escaping the tower... But the plane that it led to was a bit...' After Lin Yun calmed down, he was finally able to think about it a bit more. 'Oliver was quite unfortunate in the end... The esteemed Sky Eyes, the number one Astrologian of the empire, met such misfortune in his later years... After luckily escaping from his hundred years of imprisonment, he arrived in such a strange Planar Path...'

At this time, Lin Yun's began to feel more anxious than before.

Because the danger of this Planar Path was far higher than he could have imagined.

On the way, Lin Yun had seen corpses belonging to all the intelligent races, and each corpse had been a powerful and famous person before their death, but none of the corpses had brought him as much pressure as Oliver.

After all, Oliver was a legendary figure that Lin Yun knew a lot about. Sky Eyes Oliver had left behind countless legends, and the Mage Eye he had personally created was used by almost every mage. He was a legendary figure that had influenced an entire era.

But now, this legend's corpse was motionless in front of him, dead for countless years just like the others.

And this was all because Oliver set foot on that Planar Path.

And of course, what was most frightening was that Lin Yun was now also walking on that Planar Path.

Just thinking about it made Lin Yun feel a chill.

'Should we retreat?' This thought flashed in his mind.

But it was immediately rejected.

Because the risk of retreating wouldn't necessarily be less than what they'd face by continuing.

Although Planar Paths sounded like they'd be direct, in reality, Planar Paths were incomparably complex mazes. The space within was completely distorted. There would be no issue with following the path, but if they messed up with the route, they would immediately be lost in the maze and would have to rely on luck to be able to get out.

"Eh?" Just then, some traces at Oliver's feet came to Lin Yun's attention. 'Strange. This is...'

It looked like some bloodstains made from many droplets that had dried long ago and turned dark brown.

Lin Yun didn't care at first, assuming that Sky Eyes Oliver had fought a very frightening battle and that these bloodstains had been left during the fight.

But after carefully studying them, he discovered that this wasn't the case.

Although the droplets of blood seemed inconspicuous, after some careful examination, he noticed that they were scattered too evenly, it didn't look like they spilled out normally. Moreover, they seemed to be forming an inverted character.

'Wait...' Lin Yun froze. 'Those really are characters written in blood... They're Ascian Runes!'

It was rumored to be the first type of runes born in Noscent. The Ascian Runes had been created by the distant Gods, marking the start of Noscent's growth of knowledge, and the true start of the Golden Era.

But the Ascian Dynasty was far too distant.

Distant to the point that many people believed that whether it was the Ascian Dynasty or the ancient Gods, they were all myths and had never truly existed. Even now, many scholars insisted on calling the Golden Era the Mythological Era, an era that only existed in myths and legends.

The Ascian Runes that had been born in such an era had already been lost in the river of time. Even Lin Yun, who had extensive knowledge on all matter of subjects and had read some documents pertaining to the Ascian Runes, didn't know more than thirty Ascian Runes...

After studying the Ascian Runes for a long time, he only managed to make out a few characters.

"Run... He... Destroy... No path..."

Ascian Runes had mysterious power, and just translating these several characters almost exhausted Lin Yun. After doing all this, Lin Yun sat down on the ground, thinking while breathing heavily.

'If I'm not wrong, the first part was the sentence Oliver kept repeating after going mad... "Run! Run! He is coming!"'

This sentence had been very famous in the 3rd Dynasty, and many people used it with ridicule. But Lin Yun didn't dare to think so now.

Lin Yun knew some things about Ascian Runes, such as how harsh the requirements to use Ascian Runes were. Let alone a crazy man, even an ordinary Heaven Mage might not necessarily be able to properly use Ascian Runes. That was knowledge from the Ancient Gods, the source of all of Noscent's knowledge.

Chapter 246: End of the Path

If that Oliver was crazy, then there were no normal people left in Noscent.

Lin Yun even felt that Oliver was probably the one who went the deepest in his study of the Ascian Runes in the entire history of Noscent. He couldn't imagine how Sky Eyes conducted his research during that century of imprisonment. How did he manage to attain such amazing achievements on the Ascian Runes?

After all, from these bloody characters, it could be seen that Oliver could use the Ascian Runes effortlessly, as if he were an Ancient God.

But Oliver was definitely not an Ancient God.

Otherwise, those three Court Mages wouldn't have been able to stop him from slaying the emperor, let alone managing to imprison him in a tower for a hundred years, even if the Court Mages were Heaven Mages.

At that time, Lin Yun was already convinced.

Oliver was completely clear-headed when he wrote those Ascian Runes with blood.

So, the problem remained...

Lin Yun could understand some characters with difficulty, but he couldn't understand those few sentences. 'What "destruction", What does he mean, "no path"? What were the circumstances when Oliver used his blood to write these Ascian Runes? Hold on, no path, no path...'

Lin thought... and suddenly felt numb.

That Heaven Rank puppet he had found in the warehouse earlier seemed to have said something similar.

'There is no path forward...'

'Yes, it was that sentence.'

'There is no path forward!'

'Oh, and it did say something else beforehand.'

'Is there still someone alive?'

These sentences added together had sounded very baffling, but what was unexpected was that one of those sentences would appear on that Planar Path, and that the one to leave those words was the famous Sky Eyes Oliver.

Lin Yun couldn't help brooding over it.

As he thought about it, he fished out a blank piece of paper and quickly copied the Ascian Runes onto it. Although he couldn't translate them at the moment, he would be able to research them after returning. If one month wasn't enough, he would spend two, and if two didn't suffice, he would spend a

year on it. Even if it ended up taking him ten years, Lin Yun was determined to translate these Ascian characters.

Because Lin Yun already felt that whether it was repairing the Heaven Rank puppet or translating these Ascian Runes, both would help him reach that world-shaking secret.

Lin Yun was still unable to imagine how incredible that secret was, but he was convinced that this secret would definitely be huge.

Lin Yun spent some time copying those Ascian Runes.

After spending all that time, Lin Yun carefully went around Oliver's corpse and led the group forward. Lin Yun always felt some indescribable reverence to that Astrologian of the 3rd Dynasty, even if Oliver had died countless years ago.

It was a bit strange.

After Oliver, there were no more corpses on the Planar Path. As he led the group forward, Lin Yun didn't see anything strange, to the point that Lin Yun even wondered if everything he had seen before was only an illusion.

The only difference was that the light ahead was brighter, and the Planar Path's spatial structure just began to become unstable. There were a few times where Lin Yun even felt a formidable force about to struggle free of its bindings. Lin Yun knew that this was the frightening power that the Planar Path could no longer suppress. If that force was freed, the dozens of them on the Planar Path, the numerous corpses, and even the Planar Path itself... all of it would turn to dust.

This was the most dangerous part of the Planar Path.

At the same time, it was the closest location to their destination.

Gales, rainstorms, thunder and lightning, all kinds of different scenery started appearing, and Lin Yun knew that these were visions coming from the huge force being suppressed by the Planar Path.

"Everyone, careful!" After giving the warning, Lin Yun roused his mana to resist these frighteningly powerful visions.

Time ticked by, and the group could only be described as moving at a snail pace as each step was becoming increasingly more difficult under the battering of the elements. They didn't know how much time passed under this painful torture before the boundless light suddenly burst open.

Feeling dazzled, Lin Yun seemed to have heard an explosion, yet it also felt as if he hadn't heard anything at all.

Then everything cleared up.

"Finally..." Lin Yun stood there in a daze. At his foot were flickering stars and an endless void, while above his head was a whirlpool slowly rotating. Lin Yun remembered it from Prince Barov's tomb. When he had touched the Eyes of Reincarnation and watched as heaven and earth formed, he saw that huge whirlpool. It was the beginning of everything, and also the end of everything.

Ahead was a vast and boundless void stretching as far as eyes could see. An endless amount of mana came from the void, and even though it had been suppressed by the Planar Path, it made Lin Yun feel an irresistible pressure.

This was the legendary Heaven Enlightening Plane, also known as the Mythical Plane.

But...

The plane that only existed in legend didn't have the described golden aura flowing. They couldn't even feel the aura of life. They only saw desolation and decay. It made Lin Yun recall that Demiplane that lacked the four elements.

'It's the same feeling...'

The entire plane was deathly silent, the air was no longer flowing, life no longer existed, and even time seemed to be frozen. Only endless nothingness could be seen. The Mythical Plane was empty and deathly silent, it was already dead.

'How could this be...' Lin Yun stood there in a daze, looking towards the boundless void with a foolish expression on his face. 'How could the Mythical Plane look like this? How come there is nothing in the Heaven Enlightening Plane besides boundless mana?'

'No, no, even the boundless mana is carrying an aura of death.'

Lin Yun tried to absorb a wisp of mana so that he could analyze it with the Magic Array, before paling and rousing his Magic Arrays to remove the wisp of mana.

This attempt alone made Lin Yun suffer a heavy loss.

This mana was the most powerful mana Lin Yun had seen in his life. Just a wisp of it was comparable to a spirit mana crystal. If Lin Yun could freely meditate here, he might be able to reach the Archmage realm within a few days.

But unfortunately...

This mana couldn't be used.

Lin Yun felt a strange property coming from that wisp of mana just as he absorbed it. It couldn't rotate when it entered the Magic Arrays, feeling almost like a corpse blocking the Magic Arrays.

The Magic Arrays were Lin Yun's foundation. If they couldn't be activated, then Lin Yun's magic path would be severed. In that split second, Lin Yun truly felt fear as he went all-out to extract that wisp of mana that endangered his Magic Arrays.

Thankfully, Lin Yun was successful.

His Magic Array didn't get damaged, but forcibly extracting that wisp of mana greatly injured his body.

Just one wisp could force Lin Yun into a worse state than if he had been fighting an Archmage.

After that lesson, Lin Yun didn't relax and drank a Health Potion, partly treating his injuries while remaining vigilant. He quickly roused his Magic Arrays to observe and analyze the boundless void.

'Hmm?' After some time, Lin Yun noticed some strange mana fluctuations. These mana fluctuations came from the Crystal Scales that Lin Yun possessed.

Lin Yun had already suppressed the Incarnation of the Crystal Scales, and since then, the Spiritual Magic Tool set was only silently activated. Besides maintaining the Planar Path, it hadn't spread any mana fluctuations of its own.

He hadn't thought that after going through the very long Planar Path and reaching the Heaven Enlightening Plane, the Crystal Scales would suddenly start emitting such strange mana fluctuations.

When he noticed these mana fluctuations, Lin Yun subconsciously used his Magic Arrays. The Crystal Scales that had lost their Incarnation was instinctively operating and Lin Yun was able to easily catch those faint mana fluctuations without using any strength.

Then...

Lin Yun suddenly felt a large amount of information coming from these mana fluctuations. Lin Yun was still alert at first, rousing his Magic Arrays to carefully filter through the information, afraid of falling into a treacherous trap.

After all, the Crystal Scales didn't have a good reputation.

But soon, Lin Yun realized that this stream of information wasn't coming from the Magic Tool Incarnation but rather from the Crystal Scales themselves.

The Magic Tools didn't have consciousness by themselves. No matter how treacherous or malicious the incarnation was, once suppressed, the Magic Tool could only act on instinct.

Thus, Lin Yun sped up the reception of the information.

After a dozen minutes, Lin Yun finally comprehended it.

'It's actually the way to manipulate the Planar Path...' Lin Yun hadn't thought that the information conveyed by the Crystal Scales would turn out to be this.

Chapter 247: Keep It

If the Heaven Enlightening Plane was like a sea, that Planar Path would be akin to an ark upon which Lin Yun sailed towards the center of the Heaven Enlightening Plane.

At this time, Lin Yun truly understood the importance of the Crystal Scales.

This was completely different from what he had thought before. The Crystal Scales weren't just the key to opening the Planar Path, they were also the control mechanism for the entire Planar Path.

If not for the Crystal Scales, the journey would have ended there. Lin Yun had already experienced how frightening the mana from the vast void was. Just carelessly absorbing one wisp of it had nearly been enough to ruin his life. Only two outcomes would await them if they moved forward and walked in that endless void.

One was to drift in the void forever.

And the other was to instantly be turned into ashes.

‘Turns out it’s like this...’ Lin Yun understood why the Crystal Scales had remained in the stone tower.

He had already seen the power of the Crystal Scales.

A Spiritual Magic Tool set that could let Fran reach the Archmage realm and possess the power of an Artisan... That was a heaven-defying existence. Even Vaughn, as the final Artisan of the empire, had unimaginable status. But Lin Yun was convinced that besides those three puppets, he wouldn’t be able to find any Magic Tools on par with that set.

With the custom of the 3rd Dynasty to bury possessions alongside their dead, why weren’t the Crystal Scales buried in Crystal Island, but instead in the distant Four Seasons Canyon?

Lin Yun had always been curious about that.

But he now understood. Vaughn put the Crystal Scales there in order to give people the chance to open the Planar Path and enter the Heaven Enlightening Plane.

This wasn’t a coincidence.

This had all been planned when Vaughn was still alive.

But after figuring this out, Lin Yun didn’t have a feeling of sudden enlightenment. Rather, more and more questions appeared in his mind.

Such as, ‘Why did Vaughn plan this...’

Or, ‘What happened on the Planar Path in the end...’

And many others.

One question after another spiralled around in Lin Yun’s mind, making him feel as if he had sunk into a swamp. The more he struggled, the deeper he sank. The more he raked his brain, the more questions he’d think of.

“Merlin, Merlin...” As Lin Yun was entranced, Solomon’s voice came from behind.

“What is it, High Mage Solomon.” Lin Yun didn’t feel angry at having his thoughts interrupted, he only turned and asked politely.

“This... You... Don’t you...?” Solomon asked with one hand hidden behind his back. There were some signs of struggle on his face at first, but then, he steeled himself and took out a scroll.

“Eh?” Lin Yun was surprised. He looked at the scroll and saw that it was a Meditation Law Set.

The set was comprised of nine formulas. Lin Yun carefully looked at them and noticed that three of them were based on astrology. This was enough for Lin Yun to understand that this Meditation Law Set was most likely Sky Eyes Oliver’s Splendid Starry Sky.

Solomon was quite fortunate. The Splendid Starry Sky would be a top-quality Meditation Law Set in the current Andlusa Kingdom. It was more than enough to be treated as a core Meditation Law in the Sage Tower.

But what did it mean for Solomon to take out the Splendid Starry Sky?

Lin Yun froze before reacting.

'Is Solomon asking if I want it?'

"Eh... High Mage Solomon..." Lin Yun didn't know whether to laugh or cry at this time. Although the Splendid Starry Sky was an inheritance from Sky Eyes Oliver, nine-formula Meditation Law Sets weren't regarded as much in the future. Only those who had just become mages would use this kind of Meditation Law Set as a foundation.

Any decent mage would be practicing a ten-formula Meditation Law Set, let alone someone like Lin Yun.

He had several dozen Meditation Law Sets in mind. Never mind nine formulas or ten formulas, Lin Yun had three of the most famous fourteen-formula Meditation Law Sets!

Otherwise, Lin Yun wouldn't have casually thrown out a few Meditation Law Sets during the Magic Hand's gathering.

Furthermore...

Lin Yun had yet to choose his core Meditation Law Set.

No one knew this besides Lin Yun himself.

This included Jouyi, Solomon, William and all the people close to him. None of them knew that the young mage who had attained such shocking achievements had yet to pick a Meditation Law Set.

If such news was known, many, many people would be scared to death.

Everyone knew that a core Meditation Law Set was as important to a mage as a Magic Conducting Rune. It was akin to choosing one's future path, and almost every mage would choose their own core Meditation Law Set when they stepped into the Great Mage realm.

The sooner it was chosen, the sooner the foundation would be set in stone and the easier the path forward would be.

This was something that every mage knew. In all of Noscent, perhaps only a few Great Mages could be like Lin Yun, about to enter the High Mage realm without having chosen their core Meditation Law Set yet.

And it wasn't just a matter of simplifying things...

The most important part was that it would influence their future achievements. Without the guidance of a Meditation Law Set, a mage's path would remain indecisive and would touch upon every domain, but they wouldn't become extraordinary in any of them. This was the most common problem with those types of mages.

But naturally, Lin Yun had his reasons for delaying the choosing of his Meditation Law Set.

He had always been waiting for himself to enter the High Mage realm to start using the sixteen-formula Meditation Law Set. It was a set that completely toppled the current magic system's understanding of Meditation Law Sets.

But the requirements were very harsh.

Even with Lin Yun's strength, he only dared to attempt using it after entering the High Mage realm.

There wasn't any way to try it earlier, as the requirements were truly too severe. Although Lin Yun stood at the peak of the Great Mage realm and could defeat Archmages with the help of Magic Tools or his Flame Spirit, he still wasn't confident in being able to use that Meditation Law Set.

For the sake of this Meditation Law Set, Lin Yun had already endured for a very long time and hadn't even considered ones. Let alone the Splendid Starry Sky, even the Ivory Tower's famous Boundless Nature didn't interest Lin Yun.

Naturally, these words couldn't be said to Solomon.

Thus, Lin Yun only gave Solomon a strange look. "You should keep it..."

"Keep it?" A few simple words actually made Solomon shake. That 9th Rank High Mage even reached out his hand to touch Lin Yun's forehead. "Merlin, do you have a fever?"

"What fever?"

"Did I not explain properly? I found this Meditation Law Set on Oliver's body..." Solomon gulped as he made sure the young mage understood.

"I know, Splendid Starry Sky..."

"You... You know?" Solomon's eyes shook. He stood there in a daze, looking at Lin Yun lifelessly. After a minute, that 9th Rank High Mage scolded, "Damn, you know about it and you're still letting me keep it?"

"I..."

"You what, you clearly saw that this was Splendid Starry Sky, a nine-formula set. More importantly, it is Sky Eyes Oliver's inheritance. Getting the inheritance means that you might be able to reach Oliver's heights! That's Sky Eyes Oliver! Do you not understand!?"

"I understand, I understand..." Lin Yun was getting a headache.

"You understand... You understand and you still want me to keep it? Am I that kind of cheap person to you? You are the one who opened the Planar Path. You found the corpse of Sky Eyes Oliver, this Meditation Law Set should definitely be yours. What do you mean I should keep it?"

"The thing is... I truly don't need it," Lin Yun complained, "It's only a Meditation Law Set, you don't need to react like that..."

"You are making me angry..."

“High Mage Solomon, can I take a look?” When William saw Solomon stomping in fury, he got curious and drew closer.

Solomon was generous and handed the scroll to William as he told him with a voice still tinged in anger, “You should urge your cousin...”

“No problem...” William took the scroll with a smile, but after looking at it, a frown appeared on his face. After a long time, he returned the scroll with a puzzled expression. “It’s fine, it’s just a Meditation Law Set...”

“You guys...”

“Okay, okay, High Mage Solomon, rein in your anger. How about we go walk over there? My younger cousin was pondering over something, let’s not bother him any longer,” William suggested before leading him over.

William hadn’t put that Meditation Law Set in his eyes at all.

It only had nine formulas.

Chapter 248: Going, Not Going

That Crimson Heart Meditation Law Set his younger cousin had given him had ten formulas, and furthermore, when he gave it to him, Lin Yun had repeatedly warned him that he shouldn’t use the Crimson Heart as a core Meditation Formula. Lin Yun also told him that once he had completely mastered the Crimson Heart, he would give him a more formidable Meditation Law Set, and only then could he choose his core Meditation Law.

In contrast, what was a Meditation Law Set with only nine formulas?

In William’s eyes, Solomon was only looking to start a fight. ‘My cousin said you could keep it, so keep it, why stomp your feet like a child... A 9th Rank High Mage like yourself losing your composure because of such a formula... What about your reputation?’

It wasn’t strange for William Merlin to think this way.

After all, he was only a Great Mage.

He had only been a 5th Rank Great Mage when he left Okland for Thousand Sails City, and he hadn’t seen that many Meditation Law Sets before.

He did know that the more formula there were, the better the Meditation Law Set.

But how good could it be?

William truly couldn’t understand. The Crimson Heart Meditation Law Set that he was currently using had ten formulas. William only knew that this set was very powerful, but he had very little idea about others.

He had never considered how powerful or great it might be compared to others.

Thus, William truly couldn't understand when he saw Solomon's flustered appearance. 'It's just a nine-formula set, why would it cause such a great reaction?'

William even felt that this old man had stayed too long in the small Thousand Sails City and had never been outside of it, had never seen the world. If he told this High Mage that his own Meditation Law Set had ten formulas, how would he react?

'Hold on... This isn't right...'

William thought about it before suddenly realizing where his thinking had gone astray.

That old man who had been staying in Thousand Sails City wasn't someone who had never seen the world.

That old man's teacher was Star Sage Jouyi!

'Could it be that Meditation Law Sets with nine formulas are truly that powerful?'

William couldn't help fidgeting a bit when that thought came to his mind.

"Err, High Mage Solomon, may I ask, how many formulas does your Cloud Tower's core Meditation Law Set possess?"

"What are you asking for?" Solomon suddenly glanced warily at William. But he then recalled that he was Merlin's older cousin, and from the way Merlin didn't seem to care about the Splendid Starry Sky, William shouldn't be lacking Meditation Law Sets of his own. He relaxed a bit as he thought of that, so he responded, "Nine formulas, just like the Splendid Starry Sky..."

"Then..." William heard that and realized. He managed to calm down and gulped before hesitantly asking, "If... If there were a ten-formula Meditation Law Set... Then..."

"Ten formulas? Haha, that would be the number one Meditation Law Set of the entire Andlusa Kingdom!" Solomon answered, grinned broadly.

"..." William became breathless.

'The number one Meditation Law Set of the entire Andlusa Kingdom! I am studying the number one Meditation Law Set of the kingdom! And there's still more!?'

William felt as if he had been struck by lightning as that thought echoed like thunder. He stood there in a daze, his eyes unfocused, mumbling under his breath, "Number one Meditation Law Set, number one Meditation Law Set, number one Meditation Law Set..."

"Did something happen?" Solomon couldn't help feeling strange as William didn't answer for a long time.

"Eh, nothing, nothing..." After being asked by Solomon, William recovered from his shock. He casually dodged Solomon's question before leaving with a sluggish expression, not caring about Solomon's reaction.

"What's wrong..."

William was in no state to answer. This genius of the Merlin Family was immersed in the shock brought to him by the Crimson Heart.

When he just started learning the Crimson Heart, William had once thought to himself that the Meditation Law Set seemed quite powerful. After a short few months, he had become a 9th Rank Great Mage from his starting point as a 5th Rank Great Mage.

William remembered that his younger cousin had told him that he shouldn't be too absorbed in the effects brought by the Crimson Heart because this Meditation Law Set had flaws. Ten formulas were too few and couldn't fully evolve the Crimson Heart. The only reason he gave him this Meditation Law Set was as a foundation. Once he mastered the Crimson Heart, his cousin would teach him a Meditation Law Set that could fully evolve the Crimson Heart, and only then could he choose a core Meditation Law Set.

At the time, William truly hadn't thought that the flawed Meditation Law Set his cousin had talked about would be that formidable.

And yet it was assessed as number one in the entire Andlusa Kingdom by Solomon.

William truly didn't know what to think now. How formidable was the Meditation Law Set that his cousin was planning to give him next?

As he thought of that, William turned and looked at Merlin with reverence.

He felt that he truly couldn't understand this younger cousin. He thought he knew him well enough, but now that he looked back, William felt that his cousin was shrouded in more mysteries than ever before.

'Fortunately, fortunately... Fortunately, I went to Thousand Sails City, fortunately, I chose to cooperate with my younger cousin...'

Although he was known as one of the geniuses of the Merlin Family, ranked number five among the younger generation, what did he amount to in the end?

His future in the Merlin Family had already been decided. He would never be able to compete with Leon Merlin for the Patriarch position. His path would end at being sent to a territory to manage it while looking up at the high and mighty patriarch.

But now.

William believed that as long as he was given some time, he would definitely be able to compete for the patriarch position. What about Leon? William had the number one Meditation Law Set, his future seemed boundless. He would only need a few years before being able to surpass this older cousin that he had always been forced to look up to, and then he would be able to look down at him instead.

If he had the help of his younger cousin, the position of patriarch would be within reach. Who in the entire Merlin Family could rival this younger cousin?

Naturally...

William was also thinking of something else.

If he gave up on the patriarch position and focused on following that younger cousin, perhaps he would have the opportunity to leave his name in the annals of history.

“Everyone, we might encounter some danger.” Lin Yun finished deliberating just as William was growing restless. He stood back against the void and told the entire group, “In short, we will cross the entire plane. What this journey entails, I myself do not know...”

“Crossing the entire plane?” Suyass was startled. As one of the strongest of the Mercury Tower, Suyass had already been in planar expeditions a dozen times in the past ten years. Some were already under the control of the Mercury Tower, while some were still being explored.

But one thing was certain. He wouldn’t dare to suggest crossing an entire plane even for the ones that were already under the control of the Mercury Tower.

A plane was an entire world of its own, especially one like this, which was like an endless void as far as the eye could see. There was no end, no boundary, and it would be very difficult to make others believe that they could cross it.

“Yes, crossing the entire plane.” Lin Yun looked at Suyass before repeating it again. He continued, “I believe everyone is already aware that this is a plane higher than Noscent, it surpasses any known plane. Even an Archmage would be like an ant after entering it. A gust, a drizzle, even a grain of sand might possibly tear us apart. Thus, I’m asking everyone here. Those who want to come with me, I’ll welcome, but I’ll not make things difficult for those who don’t want to join me.”

“Moreover...” After pausing there for a moment, Lin Yun added, “This trip is very dangerous, so I think we should make some small changes to the joint exploration team’s loot distribution.”

“Go ahead, Merlin.”

“I suggest that the harvest of this trip shouldn’t be counted as part of the joint exploration team’s harvest. In other words, if you come with me, no matter what you gain during your trip, it’ll be your own. Naturally, if you are unwilling to follow me, you won’t have a share. What does everyone think?”

“I agree.”

“It seems fair.”

“I agree with Merlin’s proposal.”

...

Lin Yun’s suggestion was widely accepted. In reality, the distribution system the joint exploration team had used before was already unsuitable for this place. And the people present were all Lin Yun’s staunch supporters apart from Fran and Suyass. Being able to get more rewards on the trip was something they would try to refute.

Lin Yun’s expression grew more serious when he saw that everyone was rushing to agree because he knew that they all wanted to get the biggest harvest during this trip. In other words, everyone wanted to follow him deeper into the Heaven Enlightening Plane.

But the dangers of the Heaven Enlightening Plane weren’t ordinary.

In fact, if it weren't for him wanting to clear up those questions, Lin Yun would never be willing to risk entering the Heaven Enlightening Plane now.

Thus, Lin Yun had no other choice but to emphasize once more.

"I'll repeat once again, the danger of this journey is greater than you could have ever imagined. Everyone had better think about it and make a clear decision. I definitely won't force anyone, and you can immediately return if you wish... Except Xiuban!"

"Why can't I!?" The Draconic Beastman immediately interjected.

As for the why...

"Xiuban, we have a contract..."

"..." The Draconic Beastman felt like crying. 'If I had known earlier that it would end up like this, I would have resisted that Ghost Wolf and wouldn't have signed that damn contract. How am I supposed to survive if we keep going to these dangerous places all the time?'

'Fuck, I'm only a Draconic Beastman, I'm not a real Dragon!'

Although the bitter face of the Draconic Beastman was very laughable, no one could laugh at this time because they finally understood.

Whether it was Lys, Solomon, Fran, or Suyass, they all understood from that young Great Mage's words that this time, even he was uncertain of their success.

Otherwise, Merlin wouldn't have said these words, given his temperament.

This was like telling everyone that he wasn't confident in this adventure but that he was willing to take the risk for some special reasons. But it would be best to not go if they weren't confident enough.

Many people started hesitating this time.

They all came here because they trusted the young Great Mage, believing that he would be able to deal with all the problems. But now, even Merlin himself wasn't confident. What awaited them ahead might truly send them to their deaths.

'What should I do? Should I not go?' they thought.

Everyone was considering whether or not they should take this risk. That boundless void might be hiding some incredible wealth, or it might be hiding their doom. What to choose was completely up to each of them.

"I'll go!" Before long, a voice came out of the crowd.

The first one turned out to be William!

To be honest, although everyone had experienced the same long journey, whether it was Lys or Badrack, they didn't have a good impression of that young genius from the Merlin Family.

He was too crafty...

On the way, William had been extremely crafty, hiding during the fights while waiting for everyone else to deal with the dangers first. He had been marked as a disgrace alongside that Draconic Beastman. One crafty and one cowardly, such a pair of weirdos.

If not for Lin Yun, these two would have already been kicked out of the joint exploration team.

Chapter 249: Setting Out

It was because of Merlin.

Everyone in the exploration team was aware that the one who contributed the most wasn't the Archmage, Suyass, and neither was it the leader, Lys. The one who contributed the most was the young Great Mage who joined the team with his two subordinates and had the loot priority on all magic materials.

Fran hadn't been the only one to complain. At first, a few of the leaders of Thousand Sails City's forces also disapproved. However, they hadn't insisted on it because the Gilded Rose was formidable and no one dared to offend that young Great Mage. Even if they didn't agree, they consoled themselves, thinking that at least they would get to improve their relationships with the Gilded Rose.

But as the expedition got further and further, everyone could see that letting the young Great Mage have loot priority wasn't unfair.

He saved the joint exploration team multiple times from being wiped out when they were besieged by beasts and Thunderbirds.

At that time, their attitudes had already changed, from initially suffering in silence to willingly accepting it, or else there wouldn't have been so many people standing alongside Lin Yun against Fran when the latter wanted to take the magic materials by force.

It was also because of those that Xiuban and William, these two deadweights, had been tolerated by everyone. Otherwise, they would have been kicked out long ago.

No one had expected that at such a critical time, the first to step forward would actually be William.

Their gazes converged on William, to see whether it was truly the crafty deadweight.

This was too illogical.

Merlin had already made clear that this trip was extremely deadly, that even an Archmage might fall instantly. He even said that it might be better for them to not go, apart from Xiuban.

According to William's nature, he shouldn't even think of going there.

They all wondered if he had been hit on the head, and if he had properly heard what his cousin had said.

"Cousin, I'll follow you." William's behavior defied their expectations. He came out from the crowd with an exceptionally resolute expression.

"You had best reconsider, this is very dangerous this time. I truly cannot guarantee your safety..."

"I thought about it clearly." William's determination wasn't swayed by Lin Yun's persuasion. This crafty young mage was determined to follow Lin Yun across that plane.

This surprised even Lin Yun.

After looking at William for a while, Lin Yun helplessly shook his head. "Okay, then be careful."

"I will." William's expression seemed extremely calm.

In the entire exploration team, only William knew why he was taking this risk.

William definitely wouldn't have chosen to go just a few minutes ago.

That mysterious plane was too dangerous, and anyone that went could die, so how could William dare to go...

But it was very different now.

Because William had felt that the most fortunate moment of his life was meeting that cousin in Thousand Sails City.

In a short few months, he had already become a 9th Rank Great Mage, just one step away from the High Mage Realm he had been yearning for.

This was like a dream to William Merlin.

No, this was even more outrageous than a dream.

In the past, he would have only dared to dream of becoming a High Mage before turning forty.

But now, he was still a long way from forty, yet he was already about to enter the High Mage Realm. This was all due to this cousin.

Furthermore, there was also the Crimson Heart.

The shock William felt when he learned about the Crimson Heart was too great.

What Solomon assessed as the number one Meditation Law Set of the kingdom was only used as a foundation by his cousin... This was a terrifying thought.

If the Crimson Heart was just a foundation, then how formidable would the core Meditation Law Set that his cousin was planning to give him be?

That Crimson Heart made William realize that the most important thing he had to do in his life was to follow the footsteps of his younger cousin.

No matter where he went, regardless of what he did, he only needed to follow behind him.

Even if he had to follow him through a dangerous and mysterious plane.

These were William's true thoughts.

Naturally, Lin Yun didn't know about it.

After nodding and accepting William's determination, he looked at everyone else one by one. They had already made their decisions and the group was divided in two once again.

"We will return." To Lin Yun's surprise, Suyass and Fran also chose to follow... Well, Fran had already lost the right to make a decision and only followed Suyass.

"Oh?"

"Merlin, I know that Fran's actions were terrible. I'll tell Teacher everything after returning, and Teacher will naturally punish him. I only hope that this matter doesn't affect your relationship with the Mercury Tower. In order to express our sincerity, we will cross this mysterious plane with you and we will give up on anything we find along the way and give it to the Gilded Rose."

Hearing Suyass' words, Fran opened his mouth, wanting to disagree. But Suyass wasn't as polite as before and directly glared at him, making Fran shut his mouth.

"Haha..." Lin Yun smiled. "Fran is Fran, the Mercury Tower is the Mercury Tower. I can still differentiate them."

"Thank you." Suyass sighed in relief. Although the young Great Mage didn't make a direct statement, he had still shown his attitude, and this was enough for Suyass.

After Suyass and Fran, it was Solomon and Lys.

These two were the ones who supported Lin Yun the most. Suyass and Fran had already made their choice, so these two didn't want to fall behind.

But after them, no one else said a word.

They couldn't be blamed for demurring. That mysterious plane's power exceeded their imaginations. They were at most on par with High Mages, and they would be nothing more than ants if they entered. They could easily be burnt to ashes as soon as they went any further.

It might have been different if they were ordinary people, but these people were leaders of major forces and had hundreds of subordinates. They had a lot on their shoulders and didn't dare to take the risk of following the young mage.

"Alright, we will split up here. I already repositioned the Planar Path, as long as everyone follows it back, you'll be able to return to Noscent within three hours."

"Well... Merlin, be careful."

After watching that group of people leave, Lin Yun chanted a spell and the surrounding space started twisting. The visible mana fluctuations began wreaking havoc in the void. It looked like heavenly power.

Lin Yun didn't even look at it before chanting a long incantation. Each character carried a mysterious power, and each sentence seemed to be able to control the world. An explosion was heard as the last character left Lin Yun's mouth.

Then, the Planar Path was ruptured!

Yes, the endless Planar Path ruptured, and the few of them remained there on some sort of island amidst the void.

“Merlin, this..” Lys’ expression changed. The Planar Path rupturing also meant that they didn’t have a way back.

“Rest assured, I already prepared the way back for everyone, but it’s not suitable for opening right now...”

“But... but...” Lys didn’t feel too reassured after hearing Lin Yun’s explanation. After mumbling for a bit, he clenched his teeth and said, “But there is no need to rupture the Planar Path... Isn’t it better to have one more way out?”

“It can’t be helped, Leader Lys. We can only cross that mysterious plane if we rupture the Planar Path...”

“Ah?” Lys was stunned.

But before he could ask for clarification, Lin Yun already cast a spell and the small island they stood on was already plunging into the endless void.

“That part of the Planar Path will become our ark to cross the plane!” Lin Yun explained no further as he started controlling this part of the Planar Path with his mind.

Chapter 250: Discovery In The Void

Lin Yun had now realized that the Crystal Scales were far stronger than he had imagined.

He even felt that the true power of the Crystal Scales belonged to the True Spirit realm.

Yes, in Lin Yun’s eyes, with the Crystal Scales being that formidable, it wouldn’t be wrong to consider it a True Spirit Magic Tool Set, or a completely formed Heaven Magic Tool.

Lin Yun used the control method he had obtained earlier to make the Planar Path move through the void.

At the same time, the surrounding space started distorting crazily.

Afterwards, those distortions started combining, the process taking about five seconds before Lin Yun felt his body relaxing. The attacks of the strange mana within the endless void disappeared in an instant as if they had only been hallucinations.

Of course, Lin Yun knew that he hadn’t hallucinated.

From his experience at the end of the world, Lin Yun had gained an incomparably sharp mana sense. He couldn’t feel those mana fluctuations now because he had been operating the Crystal Scales. The surroundings of the piece of the Planar Path were distorted, isolating all the mana fluctuations from the outside, nullifying the assault of that strange mana.

This was the Heaven Enlightening Plane, after all.

Its power far surpassed what anyone could think of... Even though it looked like something had happened to the Heaven Enlightening Plane, making the plane seem dead, its power far surpassed the power in Noscent. Even a wisp of mana from this place could easily kill an Archmage, but this Planar Path Fragment was actually isolated from the Heaven Enlightening Plane due to the power of the Crystal Scales.

This wasn't something that just any True Spirit Magic Tool could do...

'But the Crystal Scales are obviously Spiritual Magic Tools. Even together they would only amount to a True Spirit Magic Tool...'

When he fought Fran, he had relied on the Upper Rank Flame Spirit to win and had used the Magic Arrays to suppress the Crystal Scales' Incarnation.

It had been far powerful than it was right now.

'So, the Crystal Scales are special in the fact that their true might can only be shown when linked with the Planar Path?'

The Crystal Scales' true power showed after he stepped on the Planar Path, after all.

But there was something that couldn't be explained. 'Who made such a monstrous Magic Tool? And what was the purpose?'

As Lin Yun was lost in his thoughts, the Planar Path Fragment continued drifting through the void.

The Planar Path Fragment travelled through the void like a meteor, though seeming slow and steady. But Lin Yun, who was in control, knew that although the travel speed was steady, it was by no means slow.

It looked like it was drifting along at a speed of no more than a kilometer per minute, but in reality, the Planar Path Fragment was relying on the spatial distortions and folds to move at least 500 kilometers in an instant.

Endless void, endless darkness...

The entire Heaven Enlightening Plane was thoroughly dead. Lin Yun didn't sense a single breath of life. Time and space seemed to be frozen in this dead plane. The Planar Path Fragment seemed to be the only place harboring life in the entire plane.

There was no light, no sound... The world remained deathly quiet.

At the start, the Planar Path Fragment was full of vitality. Solomon was curious about everything and kept asking questions, while William kept asking for guidance as he wanted Lin Yun to teach him the next Meditation Law Set. As for the Draconic Beastman, he kept complaining the whole time. He complained that Lin Yun shouldn't have brought him on such a dangerous journey. Although Suyass and Fran didn't say anything, they couldn't help curiously looking at this new world...

But...

As hours passed, everyone gradually calmed down. Darkness spread wherever they looked, and there were no voices or light. They were only surrounded by limitless desolation, making everyone feel a bit dreary.

They all became impatient. Solomon couldn't help pacing, William was researching his Crimson Heart, and Xiuban was almost weeping from anxiety. As for Fran and Suyass, they burst into a fierce quarrel, which was ended by a fierce slap from Suyass.

But Lin Yun wasn't paying attention to any of them. Whether it was the pacing Solomon or the studying William, or even the fierce quarrel, it was as if they had never existed in Lin Yun's eyes. He stood there the whole time like a stone statue.

The journey seemed to be endless.

Who knew how long it took before the restless group gradually calmed down?

But the peace that they settled into was more of a numbing silence. No one said anything as they all stood there, their eyes blankly fixed ahead, looking into the endless void.

The most frightening thing about travelling through this endless void was the eternal silence.

Everything was dull and kept repeating. Whenever they opened their eyes, they would only see nothingness. There was nothing, no end, no limit. Time and space already lost meaning in this journey. One second would stretch for a year. This kind of torture was enough to make anyone not determined enough go crazy.

Of those present, the worst one in that respect was Xiuban. Very few people could compare to him in terms of how little willpower he had. At this moment, he looked like a dead fish on the verge of collapse.

No one was talking. They had sunk into complete silence, but this kind of silence was the most dangerous.

Someone might soon shriek as they sank into madness.

But...

Lin Yun still didn't say anything. He was still calmly standing there as if nothing there mattered to him.

Hour after hour passed and their gazes grew increasingly more unfocused.

"Pay attention! There is something in front," Lin Yun suddenly said, apparently no longer pretending to be a statue.

Lin Yun's voice was very soft, and no one would have heard him if they weren't paying attention.

But they all stood up, their blank looks disappearing, and the Draconic Beastman was even jittery as he jumped to Lin Yun. "Something? What? Where?"

"It's coming." Lin Yun didn't look at him as he grabbed the Magic Staff of the Crystal Scales with one hand while taking the Book of Death from his pocket with the other hand.

Under the infusion of mana, the Book of Death instantly opened to the page of the Ultimate Spells. With one thought, Lin Yun's Ultimate Spells would be able to burst with shocking power.

These were Lin Yun's greatest trump cards.

Lin Yun would rarely use the Book of Death in the past because he knew that if he used all his cards, it would be hard to make a comeback if the situation became even more disadvantageous.

But Lin Yun couldn't worry about that now.

No one amongst them understood the Heaven Enlightening Plane more than he did. It was the most legendary plane in Noscent's countless years of history. The legends and myths had been deeply engraved in his heart.

No matter how alert and vigilant he was towards such a plane, it would never be too much.

"Come on!" A light finally appeared in this endless void, and it expanded at a shocking rate.

Only now did everyone realize that the speed of the Planar Path Fragment was incredibly shocking. That dot-sized light had flickered into the side of a mountain in less than three seconds.

Then, everyone saw it.

The flickering golden light was like a creature made out of molten gold. Its countless gorgeous scales seemed like an illusion. Its fierce head and sharp claws were brimming with wildness and power.

And the most frightening part was that it had three heads!

"Heavens!" Solomon and Suyass exclaimed at the same time.

It was a Dragon!

A Three-Headed Golden Dragon!

The most noble of the Chromatic Dragons...

Golden Dragons represented boundless power and supreme status. Even in the distant Nesser Dynasty, Golden Dragons were natural rulers. They weren't like the Green Dragons who controlled the power of nature, and they also weren't like Silver Dragons, who were proficient in all magical knowledge. They only had power, enough to tear the sky and shatter the earth.

And this Dragon had three heads!