

Magic Era 321

Chapter 321: Misunderstanding

“Eh...” Lin Yun was stunned. How could there be such a hot-tempered Master Alchemist? How could someone like this study alchemy, which required patience?

At this moment, the mana shackles forming in the air let out a sharp sound, just like a tense bowstring being suddenly released as they snapped down and bound Lin Yun.

“I said, who is your teacher? Is it Casey? Or Kenchi?” The middle-aged man didn’t do anything else after restraining Lin Yun with the mana shackles. He only looked at Lin Yun. “I want to see who disregards the rules and lets their disciple casually burst into this laboratory.”

“Eh...” Lin Yun helplessly shook his head after being shackled.

He slightly exerted himself and freed himself from the bindings of the mana shackles.

Indeed, very slightly.

Based on these mana shackles, Lin Yun estimated that this middle-aged man was a High Mage that was at least 5th Rank or higher. Lin Yun would have had a very difficult time if he had been an ordinary 1st Rank High Mage. He would even have had to use Runic Shield immediately. After all, the pressure of having a higher rank was quite huge.

Unfortunately, he met none other than Lin Yun.

To Lin Yun, mana shackles made only of pure mana were the same as nothing. The Magic Array revolved, showing Lin Yun the structure of the mana shackles and their vulnerabilities. Lin Yun only had to release a wisp of mana, stimulating a few weak points, which led to the mana shackles collapsing.

He only had to slightly shake them off afterwards.

But it looked different in the eyes of that middle-aged alchemist.

“Battle Mage?” The middle-aged alchemist squinted as he looked at Lin Yun with alarm and hostility.

From that alchemist’s point of view, the mage in front of him holding a magic staff hadn’t let out the slightest bit of Aura. In other words, he was a mage and not a warrior. But how could he free himself from the mana shackles purely through force despite being a mage? And with such ease... He had to be from Gaugass, he had to be one of those Battle Mages that focused on the martial path and the magic path at the same time.

This situation would be a lot more complicated if it involved a Battle Mage.

In the past, the King of Gaugass and his Battle Mages almost collapsed the rule of the 3rd Dynasty Empire. Although the Emperor defeated the Gaugass leader in the Tulan Mountains, forcing the Battle Mages to remain silent for millennia, as recently as three hundred years ago that disaster made the relationship between the Black Tower and the Gaugass Battle Mages burst apart. From that point on, the Battle Mages became an isolated race.

That disaster was truly too painful for the Black Tower.

It was to the point that the Black Tower's hate for them had yet to be quenched to this day.

By approaching the Black Tower, one could see hunting boards posted outside. According to those, one could obtain a Magic Tool on the same level as any Battle Mage they kill. The bounty never changed in the past hundred years, and this was the result of three hundred years of hatred.

The attitude of the Black Tower, one of the most powerful forces, was naturally influencing other factions. Over time, even forces like the Cloud Tower and the Mercury Tower naturally also started avoiding contact with the Battle Mages. It was due to the combination of the Battle Mages indeed being a different race, and also the fact that they didn't want to provoke the Black Tower.

Over the last three hundred years, the Battle Mages almost completely disappeared from Noscent, and even if they did appear, they would soon hide their tracks.

"I truly didn't expect a Battle Mage to be hidden within our midst. I want to see who was blind enough to let a Battle Mage infiltrate the Mercury Tower..." The middle-aged alchemist's expression turned rather gloomy. His gaze did nothing to hide his hostility as he glared at Lin Yun.

This was no joke... There would be huge troubles if the Black Tower got information that a Battle Mage infiltrated the Mercury Tower. They might even suffer from the retaliation of the Black Tower.

The consequences were too grave.

The first thought appearing in the mind of that middle-aged alchemist was to hurriedly make that Battle Mage disappear while this matter had yet to spread and to then erase every trace.

Thus, the middle-aged man didn't even wait for an answer and instantly started casting a Frost Ring. A blue radiance flickered in front of Lin Yun followed by the sound of an explosion as the ice elements within the Frost Ring erupted. That instant burst of power was formidable enough to force any 5th Rank High Mage to cast a Runic Shield.

But not Lin Yun.

Facing the frantic ice elements, Lin Yun only took a step back and avoided the scattering ice chunks before conjuring an Ice Fire Shield. Under Lin Yun's formidable control, that Ice Fire Shield blocked what he hadn't been able to dodge with ease. The Ice Shield and the Fire Shield worked in tandem. The latter had blocked the previous explosion while the Ice Shield blocked the scattering chunks of ice. If one didn't pay attention, they wouldn't notice the appearance of that Ice Fire Shield.

Just like the middle-aged alchemist.

Because he was preoccupied with maintaining the Frost Ring, he didn't notice the Ice Fire Shield. The first thought flashing to his mind was, 'Such a terrifying body, if he isn't a Battle Mage, what is he?'

"You are truly a Battle Mage!" After confirming his conjecture, the alchemist no longer stayed his hand and let out another Ice Ring, followed by a Fire Dragon, a Flame Burst, and Hellish Flames.

Three fire spells blossomed almost instantly.

This was a Spell Combo often used by High Mages. It took advantage of the Fire Dragon Spell's delay to cast a Flame Burst and Hellish Flames. These two spells would then both burst out at the same time as the Fire Dragon. The instant burst that ensued would completely surpass the caster's own rank.

"Hmm?" Lin Yun frowned as the middle-aged alchemist cast his Fire Dragon. He hadn't cared about the mana shackles and the Frost Ring, as they were only control spells. They didn't carry harsh enmity, so how could Lin Yun get angry? He had kept a good relationship with the Mercury Tower....

But this time...

One Fire Dragon Spell, one Flame Burst Spell, and one Hellish Flames Spell...

The most commonly used High Mage combo.

This also meant that this middle-aged man wanted to kill him.

The past two decades gave Lin Yun the habit of nipping any danger in the bud. If someone wanted to kill him, he would kill that person first. It was a subconscious reaction. Lin Yun also instinctively cast Elemental Incarnation and instantly turned into a ball of flames. He relied on the three fire spells cast by the opponent to Flame Flash over.

It was followed by a Flame Spear piercing down.

The middle-aged alchemist wasn't slow to react at all. He saw Lin Yun's Elemental Incarnation and instantly cast an Elemental Shield, because he knew that the enemy was about to counterattack. And sure enough, the Flame Spear appeared right as the Elemental Shield formed.

The Flame Spear dissipated after colliding with the shield.

The middle-aged man had a strange expression, and a sneer could be seen playing at the corner of his mouth. 'Battle Mages are indeed Battle Mages, how could they truly step on the path of magic when they also have to devote themselves to the martial path...'

But... When the alchemist lowered his guard, Lin Yun who was the embodiment of a fire Elemental, raised his hand once again, sending a very long Flame Burst out.

"Shit..." The middle-aged alchemist instantly cursed. 'How could it be so fast?'

How could he know...

That Lin Yun could use almost all fire type spells under the effect of Elemental Incarnation while completely ignoring spell cooldowns.

Thus...

One Flame Burst, Two Flame Bursts, Three Flame Bursts, Four Flame Bursts...

The middle-aged man's forehead was soaked in sweat.

The Elemental Shield was becoming dimmer and dimmer. It was bright at first, but it was a bit faint now. The middle-aged man knew that he wouldn't be able to take one more Flame Burst.

He knew that he would be suppressed unless he immediately counterattacked, as his Elemental Shield was on the brink of collapse.

The blazing flames then engulfed him.

The alchemist thoroughly panicked.

'How could a Gaugass Battle Mage have such incredible casting prowess? He used an entire seven Flame Bursts! Even with the power up from Elemental Incarnation, it still shouldn't be this frightening!

'Didn't it stem from me wanting to teach him a lesson? To make him understand the rules? How did it come to this...'

The middle-aged alchemist became clear-headed under the shock of fear, as he had suddenly realized that he might be losing his life in this fight. This made the middle-aged alchemist feel quite morose. He felt as if he just kicked a hat only to find out that a huge stone was hidden underneath, before then finding out that this huge stone was, in fact, an overwhelming monster.

"What are you doing!?" The doors to the laboratory were suddenly pushed open as someone hurriedly came in. He saw the darkened Elemental Shield as well as the Flame Burst being prepared in Lin Yun's hands. He took some time to figure out what had happened before casting an Elemental Shield to try to save the middle-aged man while hurriedly shouting at Lin Yun, "Stop quickly!"

But he froze just as he shouted.

"Merlin?"

Chapter 322: Herman

"Haha, long time no see, Sir Suyass..." Lin Yun knew that the middle-aged alchemist would be able to keep his life when Suyass appeared, so he greeted the latter with a smile as he cancelled that Flame Burst and removed his Elemental Incarnation.

"Merlin, how come you are here..." Suyass looked at this scene, stunned.

But Suyass' reaction wasn't slow, he looked at the smiling Lin Yun and the sweating alchemist and quickly understood.

Guessing what had happened, Suyass got a headache.

Suyass clearly knew that a fight had broken out; even a fool would be able to notice it.

The battle wasn't that important, the problem was who was fighting with who...

Suyass had joined the exploration team of Thousand Sails City and fought alongside Lin Yun, so how could he not know how terrible that young mage was? He had been a 9th Rank Great Mage at the time and already defeated Fran, who had temporarily gained the power of an Archmage. And now he had already advanced to become a High Mage, which should make him ten times more terrifying.

He was a living monster.

Wasn't Fran bold enough? He was still traumatized after coming back from the Four Seasons Canyon. Whenever the name Mafa Merlin was uttered, fear would appear on his face as he looked around everywhere. He was getting scared to death.

Even Suyass, who was already an Archmage, couldn't avoid having some post-traumatic stress after the trip to the Four Seasons Canyon. It was fortunate that his teacher and Karon had some friendship with Mafa Merlin. Otherwise, with how he and Fran had acted in the Four Seasons Canyon, they would have already died over ten times...

Even after returning to Okland, Suyass would still feel cold sweat whenever he remembered that unfathomable Great Mage.

He originally thought that he would stay in Thousand Sails City for a long time and wouldn't come to Okland anytime soon.

But he hadn't expected that just a month later, he would see that frightening monster once again.

And in such circumstances nonetheless.

It was too frightening.

This monster truly was just as ruthless as before. If he had been ten or twenty seconds later, Barlow might have already become a corpse.

"Barlow, what's going on?" Suyass' voice was extremely strict.

Nothing could be done about it, Suyass had no other choice but to be strict.

Not being strict with Barlow now would be the same as causing trouble for himself. 'Why did you have to trouble this person? Why did you provoke this ruthless monster that even Fran couldn't even get rid of? If it weren't for me pleading for Fran, he wouldn't even have been able to return to the Mercury Tower...

'That's right, you might be powerful, Barlow, a Master Alchemist who is also a High Mage could be considered something in Okland. But you still can't compare to Fran from the Four Seasons Canyon... At that time, Fran gained power from a Magic Tool and already became a genuine Archmage. But how did it end? He was casually defeated by this Mafa Merlin.

'What makes you so courageous? Barlow... To dare go against such a monster... If you are courting death, do it somewhere else...

'Now what? I saved you and you are helping me by implicating me into your mess? My legs still shake a bit when facing this monster...'

Unfortunately, Barlow truly didn't know any of this.

He was completely bewildered.

When he saw Suyass shouting for the young mage to stop, Barlow felt overjoyed and thought that his savior had come. Suyass was one of Nolan's personal disciples. Since Karon left for the Gold Forest

Plane, he was the person with the most authority in the Mercury Tower, a true Archmage. He could settle this easily.

Thus, Barlow was happily waiting.

But what awaited him was Suyass' angry scolding.

"Sir Suyass, this is what happened..." Barlow hurriedly wanted to explain himself.

"Barlow, you shut up!" How could Suyass let him explain anything? This was no joke. It would be fine if Barlow was the one in the wrong, as he would just scold him and apologize to Merlin.

But if Barlow wasn't...

He would definitely face an imminent catastrophe.

If Barlow was right, then wouldn't that mean that Merlin was in the wrong?

How could Merlin be in the wrong?

If he was, it would be a big deal.

What if he did something like in the Four Seasons Canyon?

At that time, Suyass managed to save Fran, but who could save Suyass now?

Suyass didn't even think and immediately interrupted Barlow. "Do you know what you are doing!?"

"I..." Barlow was stunned by the harsh tone before he suddenly regained himself and hurriedly said, "Sir Suyass, Sir Suyass, he... He is a Gaugass Battle Mage!"

"What Gaugass Battle Mage, you are kidding me...?" Suyass almost spat out blood. 'How could Merlin be a Battle Mage? Shit, do you think Fran and I are blind?'

"It's true, Sir Suyass, he truly is..."

"Less nonsense. Merlin is my friend. Aside from the obvious fact that he isn't a Battle Mage, even if he was, so what? Don't forget that our Mercury Tower hasn't declared war with the Battle Mages. You are worried about the Black Tower's reaction? Let them come look for me..."

"I was wondering who was spouting so much nonsense! Turns out it was you, Suyass. How come you are dissatisfied with our Black Tower? Let me hear about this..."

While Suyass was thinking of a way to kick Barlow out of here, a voice came in from outside.

The doors to the laboratory opened once again as a middle-aged man wearing a black robe entered.

But the cuffs of that man were shockingly embroidered with an interwoven pattern of gold and silver.

Archmage!

He was an Archmage from the Black Tower!

"Herman? Why are you here?"

“Hehe, why can’t I...” After the man entered the room, he glanced at Lin Yun with a gloomy expression before looking back at Suyass. “My Evil Dragon Eye is damaged, I was originally looking for your Mercury Tower to help me fix it...”

He stopped here and looked at Lin Yun once again. “Had I not come, I wouldn’t have known that your Mercury Tower was actually colluding with the Gaugass Battle Mages. Suyass, it looks like you are trying to shield this Gaugass Battle Mage?”

“Herman, your words are a bit too excessive. Your Black Tower has no right to criticize how our Mercury Tower handles its matters.”

After Suyass finished, he glared fiercely at Barlow. ‘Fuck, look what you did. There was no issue originally, yet you insisted on him being a Battle Mage and attracted someone from the Black Tower, look what you did...’

“Eh?” The middle-aged Archmage clearly didn’t think that Suyass, who had always been so cooperative, would be so blunt this time. Herman looked at Suyass with a strange expression as he pressed, “Suyass, you should think about it carefully. Our Black Tower has a bone-deep hatred towards those Gaugass Battle Mages. Don’t think you can do as you please just because you have Nolan’s support. Let me advise you, Suyass, don’t start a disaster for the Mercury Tower...”

“Herman, High Mage Merlin comes from Thousand Sails City and is the owner of the Gilded Rose. He is a true Andlusan Mage and not a Gaugass Battle Mage as you keep accusing him of being. Barlow is lacking and made a mistake, but you are an Archmage, Herman, how could you be so ignorant?”

“Very well, Suyass, you needn’t say anything else. Whether this kid is from Gaugass or not, our Black Tower shall naturally decide. Since when has it become your Mercury Tower’s time to talk?” After saying that, Herman no longer looked at Suyas and directly raised a finger at Lin Yun. “Kid, follow me. It doesn’t matter if you don’t want to admit that you are a Battle Mage, the Black Tower’s Obsidian Prison is well-known in Okland. As long as you spend a day there, you’ll spill all your secrets.”

“Hey, Herman, Merlin is my friend, what are you trying to pull?” Suyass’ expression became very grave. He had known that Herman was brash, being one of the youngest Archmages of the Black Tower. But Suyass hadn’t thought that he would be this brash.

He was completely disregarding him.

And he wanted to take Merlin away from the Mercury Tower.

He didn’t even put the Mercury Tower in his eyes.

It wasn’t a subordinate of the Black Tower!

This was a provocation to the entire Mercury Tower.

Even Suyass was somewhat nervous about the other side’s strength, but this time, he had no choice but to stand against him. He reached out with his hand and immediately put Lin Yun behind him, his eyes not moving away from the middle-aged Archmage.

“Haha, Suyass, I haven’t seen you in a few years, you have some courage. Don’t tell me you forgot that pursuit in the Gold Forest Plane?”

Suyass' expression turned nasty when he heard this. He looked as if he was about to erupt. This event was one of the rare disgraces in Suyass's life. At that time, Suyass and Herman were both 9th Rank High Mages.

Chapter 323: Devouring Hand

A few years ago, Suyass had been dispatched to the Gold Forest Plane's battlefield. He led a puppet legion and fought the Dark Elves, tempering himself for many years as he was getting closer and closer to the Archmage realm. Everyone was looking forward to Suyass' breakthrough as that would add one more Archmage to the Mercury Tower.

But something huge happened in the Gold Forest Plane. An Abyssal Evil Dragon's corpse actually appeared before the forces of the Mercury Tower after one of the Seven Great Magic Cities of the plane, Somal, was conquered. That Abyssal Evil Dragon had been sealed in the underground of the Gold Forest Plane, its huge body extending for over 500 kilometers, just like a mountain range, and it was connected to the Seven Great Magic Cities. What appeared before the mages of the Mercury Tower after claiming Somal was the head of the Dragon, and the aura that was leaking through the seal on it felt extremely violent.

At the time, it caused a stir in the entire Mercury Tower.

To the Mercury Tower which was a force of alchemists, the corpse of an Abyssal Evil Dragon was simply priceless. In response to the discovery, Nolan sent the order to seize that corpse at all cost.

Thus, the Mercury Tower sped up their plans and hastened to conquer the Seven Great Magic Cities, only taking three years to vanquish three of them.

But no one expected that the information about the Abyssal Evil Dragon was leaked...

And so, the Black Tower arrived.

The Black Tower used some unknown means to forcibly pinpoint the Gold Forest Plane's coordinates and faced great dangers to dispatch three Archmages and ten 9th Rank High Mages to quietly infiltrate the Gold Forest Plane.

Back then, Suyass' puppet legion had met fierce resistance at the 4th Great Magic City, and with his attention occupied he ended up making a huge mistake. He hadn't discovered that the news of the Abyssal Evil Dragon's corpse had been leaked and he hadn't noticed that the force of the Black Tower had already arrived.

Thus, unbeknown to Suyass, the Black Tower's force went deep inside Somal, and under the joint force of the three Archmages and ten 9th Rank High Mages, they forcibly cut a corner of the seal and snatched away one of the eyes of the Abyssal Evil Dragon.

That eye was now the True Spirit Magic Tool Evil Dragon Eye.

After the Abyssal Evil Dragon Eye was taken away, Suyass reacted promptly, giving up on capturing the 4th Great Magic City and just leaving the whole puppet legion there as he rushed back to intervene with the intruders. But he ended up running into Herman who had been left on the rearguard.

The two men fought a fierce battle, which ended in Suyass' defeat.

Herman pursued Suyass through the entire Gold Forest Plane for three days until they finally reached the place where the puppets had been left.

This was a disgrace Suyass would never be able to forget.

Not only had he lost to Herman, he felt that his mistake had shamed the entire Mercury Tower.

The Black Tower snatched that Abyssal Evil Dragon Eye from the Gold Forest Plane, but refused to admit that they ever sent a team to that plane.

Because of this, Nolan angrily charged into the Black Tower and pointed at Harren cursing wildly.

But no matter how much he cursed, he couldn't change the fact that the Abyssal Evil Dragon's Eye was taken unless the Mercury Tower was resolute enough to start a war against the Black Tower. They had no proof and thus simply couldn't denounce the Black Tower.

In fact, the Mercury Tower was forced to endure this nauseating grievance.

What was most intolerable was that Herman started frequently visiting after that and would often request the help of the Mercury Tower for repairs on his Evil Dragon Eye Magic Tool.

Every time Suyass saw Herman, every time his eyes landed on that Evil Dragon Eye, Suyass felt great humiliation.

But Suyass knew that the current Mercury Tower couldn't fall out with the Black Tower at the moment.

Thus, Suyass could only endure.

Just like today, even if Herman came to visit with the Evil Dragon Eye and mocked that he had been the one chasing him for three days and nights, Suyass could only restrain himself.

It was because the current Mercury Tower couldn't afford to make an enemy of the Black Tower.

There was a sizable gap between the two forces, and because of the unforeseen events happening in the Gold Forest Plane, the Mercury Tower already had their hands busy. If they also started a war with the Black Tower, they would have to deal with enemies in the front and in the back, putting the Mercury Tower in great danger.

"I'll say it again, Herman, my friend Merlin isn't a Battle Mage." Suyass curbed his anger with difficulty as he said this with an ashen face, "Our Mercury Tower welcomes you if you wish to have your Evil Dragon Eye repaired. But I don't have the time to spend on other matters."

After saying this, he turned to Lin Yun and said with an unsightly smile, "Merlin, let's go talk in my study, this place is too noisy."

"Go?" But before Lin Yun could answer, Herman intervened once again, "Suyass, you are truly naive. Even Okland's children know of the hatred the Black Tower has towards those Gaugass Battle Mages. Who do you think you are to dare take away a Battle Mage in front of me."

He continued, "Don't tell me this is the standing of the Mercury Tower." After saying this, Herman's expression turned heavy. The mana fluctuations of an Archmage spread in the surroundings as he started brimming with an imposing aura, "No one is taking away anyone today."

"You..." Suyass' expression froze.

"Kid, don't think that Suyass can protect you. Be obedient now and follow me back to the Black Tower..."

"Herman! Don't go too far!"

The atmosphere in the laboratory was tense. Lin Yun knew that he had no other choice but to make a move.

"It's fine." Lin Yun patted Suyass' shoulder before moving out from the cover behind Suyass' back as he looked towards Herman, "I shall repeat, I am from Thousand Sails City and I am not a Battle Mage."

"Haha..." Herman suddenly sneered, "It doesn't matter whether it is you or Suyass who say that you aren't a Battle Mage. All you have to do now is to follow me back to the Black Tower and undergo torture in the Obsidian Prison. The torture will make you spill everything."

"What if I don't want to?"

"Hmpf, this is not for you to decide..." After saying this, Herman extended his hand. That hand didn't look strong or powerful, it even looked somewhat frail.

But even Suyass' expression couldn't help changing when he saw that hand.

"Herman! You dare!" Suyass panicked as he wanted to intervene.

But it was already too late.

Herman's outstretched hand caused the surrounding mana to turn berserk. It felt as if the mana in the atmosphere was suddenly being devoured, as if there was a huge vortex in Herman's hand, absorbing everything.

"Hmm?" Lin Yun frowned, 'This doesn't seem to be a spell?'

"Merlin! This is the Devouring Hand, be careful..." Suyass had a worried expression.

Among the few people in the room, Suyass was the only one who personally experienced that Devouring Hand. Suyass suffered from the Devouring Hand many times during that long pursuit in the Gold Forest Plane.

After returning from the Gold Forest Plane, Suyass repeatedly turned over everything he researched about Herman and only later, thanks to the help of Karon and Nolan, understood that this Devouring Hand wasn't really a spell, it was an ability similar to one.

But this wasn't an innate ability.

Herman's Magic Conducting Rune was the Black Hole, one of the three Great Magic Conducting Runes of the Black Tower.

The Black Hole could be considered one of the peak Magic Conducting Runes of the Andlusa Kingdom, and it was very evil and strange in nature. It wasn't particularly special with only one or two such Magic Conducting Runes on a mage, but once a person possessed five Black Holes, the power of that Magic Conducting Rune would be fully displayed. Black Hole innately had the ability to devour anything. During a battle, the Black Hole could even absorb the mana from enemies.

This showed how wicked and special the Black Hole was.

But, this strange and evil Magic Conducting Rune was also very dangerous. Many mages would choose the Black Hole when advancing to the Great Mage realm. The unique characteristic of this Magic Conducting Rune would allow one to fight people beyond their ranks.

But these Great Mages usually wouldn't have a good ending.

Devouring unfiltered mana was a very dangerous thing in itself. If there was an issue, in the best case, it would lead to one's mana not being pure enough, in the worst case, mana would exceed what they could bear and the Mana Whirlpool would collapse under the weight.

It could be said that out of ten Great Mages deciding for the Black Hole Magic Conducting Rune, nine would fall midway. Even if they were lucky enough to form one, most of them would be unable to reach a higher rank.

As time passed, less and less Great Mages chose the Black Hole as their Magic Conducting Rune.

Herman was one such exception.

Suyass once heard someone mention that Herman was the only Archmage with the Black Hole Magic Conducting Rune in the current Black Tower.

And this was because Herman obtained a Meditation Law Set matching the Black Hole.

Moreover, this was a Meditation Law Set unique to Herman. Besides Herman, no one could practice it in the Black Tower.

It should be because of this that Herman was valued by the Black Tower to the point where they would hand him the Evil Dragon Eye.

The Devouring Hand Herman was displaying now had been formed with the Black Hole as its core along with Herman's own Meditation Law Set.

This was Herman's unique ability.

It was powerful to the point that even Suyass didn't dare claim he could withstand it.

If it was left alone, it would engulf the entire laboratory as the mana was steadily forming a hurricane with the hand as its center.

Chapter 324: Thank You

It was terrifying.

Suyass' heart sank, 'He is really using it...'

The hurricane of mana was frantically rushing towards the hand, as if it was being absorbed by an incorporeal force. In an instant, the peaceful laboratory turned into a great tempest.

"Barlow, get out!" Suyass had personally clashed with the Devouring Hand before and knew how terrifying it could be. He had suffered from it a few times during that pursuit.

Now that this Devouring Hand appeared, Suyass instantly knew that something bad would happen and thus immediately pushed Barlow away.

Sure enough...

The power of the Devouring hand burst just as Barlow started to retreat. Suyass then heard a cry and turned, only to see Barlow's extremely pale face.

And the scariest part was that Barlow tried to cast a spell, twice... But the Runic Shield never came out.

Barlow was a genuine 5th Rank High Mage, he only needed to say one word to release his Runic Shield. But now... He chanted two full incantations, and it didn't show any signs of appearing...

Suyass knew that this was the evidence of mana disorder...

This detail made Suyass' expression turn unsightly. He truly didn't expect that in a few years, Herman's Devouring Hand would become so much more frightening. After all Barlow had only been affected by the aftermath of the Devouring Hand, yet it caused him mana disorder.

The true target of the Devouring Hand was Merlin.

As he thought of this, Suyass' expression became even worse.

"Shit..." Suyass cursed while raising his head.

Because he saw Herman's right hand extending towards Lin Yun.

Suyass knew that the most terrifying part of the Devouring Hand was when the hand directly touched one part of the body. At that time, the Devouring Hand would be akin to an unequalled existence. Even an Archmage like himself would lose a great amount of mana by getting in contact with that Devouring Hand and ending up with a mana disorder was the best outcome. At worst, his mana whirlpool would be drawn out.

The young High Mage should immediately withdraw.

He would only be able to find a chance to counter-attack if he avoided the strongest attack of the Devouring Hand.

But Suyass instantly froze when he saw the raising magic staff in the young High Mage's hands.

'It's over, it's over...'

Sure enough, the magic staff was already risen as Suyass cursed.

In a flash, the magic staff embedded with a huge precious gem knocked against that hand.

“Truly overestimating yourself...” Herman coldly snorted as he grinned at Lin Yun. He had been able to distinguish himself in the ruthless Black Tower and went through so many close calls over the years. He defeated countless powerful enemies. No one knew more than Herman how powerful the burst of his Devouring Hand was.

Let alone a twenty years old mage, even those rivals who had surpassed him a long time ago with their power and talent would be instantly shocked and filled with remorse once they experienced a touch of that hand.

Another burst of power came from the hand as the magic staff and the now huge Devouring Hand came in contact. It was followed by the huge magic gem embedded at the tip of the magic staff darkening as a steady flow of mana poured into Herman’s body. Herman felt infatuated with that familiar feeling. It wasn’t unexpected, nor was it a pleasant surprise. Herman knew that this decent Magic Tool would soon turn into scraps by the Devouring Hand, that young mage’s turn soon following. It would only take a minute or two, it would be very fast. If he could absorb every trace of mana of that young mage, he would thoroughly cripple him.

Everything was under Herman’s control.

The magic staff with the huge gem inlaid was standing off against the Devouring Hand. The gem blossomed with radiance as runes started appearing on the magic staff, looking shocking and inspiring.

But Herman knew that this was only the final radiance of the Magic Tool.

Sure enough, under the continuous draining of power, the precious gem bloomed with light, before becoming darker and darker. The runes appearing on that magic staff were just like flowers wilting. It only took ten seconds before Herman felt the power of that magic tool sharply declining. It would soon be unable to stop his Devouring Hand.

‘What should I do...’ Suyass was pale and fearful. Herman’s move had been too unexpected, Suyass never expected Herman to use the Devouring Hand.

Moreover...

Merlin was too careless.

‘How can you be so careless as to directly touch the Devouring Hand? This is Herman’s greatest card, one of the most powerful Magic Conducting Runes of the Black Tower. This ability evolved from it and Herman’s Meditation Law Set. This was a terrifying ability that could make Herman crush any opponent on the same level as himself.’

Merlin was facing off such a frightening ability.

‘What should I do? What can be done?’

Suyass knew that this Magic Tool wouldn’t be able to last, the Magic Tool would turn to scrap and the Devouring Hand’s power would directly fall on Merlin.

Suyass felt that he had to do something!

He absolutely couldn't let the Devouring Hand's power descend on Merlin, nor could he let Herman carry Merlin away, otherwise how could he face his teacher, how could he face Karon?

In Suyass' eyes, the Devouring Hand would be able to devour anyone within the same rank.

Just as Suyass was in a hurry, the Elemental Amber at the top of the Magic Staff let out its final spark of light. This meant that the last bit of mana of the Elemental Amber had been devoured, and the Devouring Hand would now devour the power of the magic staff itself.

"What a pity, this was a decent Magic Tool" Herman shook his head as he urged the Devouring Hand once again.

The Magic Tool was thoroughly destroyed.

"Indeed, what a pity. It's the first time I see this kind of ability..." Lin Yun had yet to talk since the battle started.

But the others didn't understand what he meant..

What did he mean by this was a pity?

"You won't trick me!" Herman coldly snorted as the Devouring Hand burst with all its power. In a flash, the Spiritual Magic Staff deformed, the many runes on it deforming along with it as well as the arrays on it.

This was the sign of the Magic Tool collapsing

It wasn't just Suyass this time, even Barlow who hadn't been too happy with Lin Yun couldn't help sweating and crossing his fingers for that young mage. If the Magic Tool exploded, the young mage would lose the last thing he had been relying on and would have no other choice but to face the Devouring Hand on his own.

Time seemed to be frozen at this moment.

The entire alchemy laboratory felt stifling.

One second, two seconds...

Eventually, the power of the Devouring Hand thoroughly destroyed the array of that magic staff, and in that split second, everyone seemed to hear a mournful sound. That was the sound of the Magic Tool falling.

"Hey..." The pale Suyass let out a sigh.

What a pity...

But then, Suyass saw that the young mage who had lost its Spiritual Magic didn't seem to be annoyed, he actually looked rather happy.

"Thank you, Sir Herman." The Spiritual Magic Staff's arrays had already collapsed and the esteemed Spiritual Magic Tool had already turned into something ordinary, yet Lin Yun actually thanked him?

It was indeed a "Thank you" ...

The three other mages all thought they had misheard.

Did that young mage go crazy? His Spiritual Magic Tool became something ordinary and he might lose his life to the Devouring Hand, why would he thank him?

But they didn't have time to think, because Lin Yun put away the remains of the Magic Tool in his pocket while revolving the Magic Arrays and the two Alchemic Mana Whirlpools. The mana poured in an incredible way, it was like an unrestrained flood crazily attacking the Devouring Hand.

"Ridiculous!" Herman sneered.

It's not as if Herman never met someone trying such a move, this was something that would happen quite often, he met many such opponents that would burst with all their power at a critical juncture, vainly using this method to try making a comeback.

But unfortunately...

No one succeeded. Even those Archmage rank opponents had been left suffering a loss.

Not to mention a young mage in his twenties.

Indeed, that young mage was really powerful and persevered in front of the Devouring Hand. Although he lost a Spiritual Magic Tool, that kind of performance already made Herman respect him.

But it was only respect.

A twenty years old kid's mana was bound to be inferior to his, in these circumstances, no matter if he burst or counterattacked, it would be nothing more than a joke.

Chapter 325: Mana Disorder

Herman didn't have to do anything else to deal with this.

He only increased the power of the Devouring Hand to allow the surging mana to flow in.

Seconds slowly passed.

A large amount of mana was pouring in Herman's body. Whether it was Suyass, or Barlow, they could both clearly see Herman's body swelling, his robe fluttering due to the surging mana. He started to look like a balloon filled with air. It looked very funny and ridiculous.

But Suyass didn't laugh, and neither did Barlow...

Because they knew that Herman who looked funny and ridiculous was in his most terrifying state, what made Herman's body swell like a balloon wasn't air, it was a large amount of pure mana.

It would create a disastrous explosion if it burst.

In fact, Suyass and Barlow could already feel a frightening aura being formed, and although Herman was focused on keeping the Devouring Hand under control, Suyass knew that once Herman's mana reached a critical point, what would await them would be a despairing explosion.

Only Suyass who experienced the Devouring Hand knew about this terrifying ability.

It was back then, in the forest of the Gold Forest Plane, that Suyass had personally seen Herman fight a Level 30 magic beast. At that time, Herman had only been a 9th Rank High Mage, yet he forcibly devoured over half of that magic beast's mana before erupting with it, killing that Level 30 magic beast in one move.

That battle left a deep impression on Suyass.

Herman had burst with a power far exceeding his rank at the time, that was an attack surpassing his limits. That Level 30 magic beast let out a blood-curdling scream as it fell at Herman's feet.

He might have been the one who had meticulously lured that magic beast over in order to block Herman's pursuit, but Suyass was so shocked that he even forgot to flee.

Now, Herman was once again being filled with mana.

Suyass knew that there was not much time left for that young High Mage, he would soon end up like that Level 30 magic beast if he couldn't counterattack immediately.

"Kid, you don't have much time left..." As the Devouring Hand crazily gathered mana, Herman felt that familiar sensation of mana and sneered.

Herman had already devoured enough mana, and that Spiritual Magic Tool had contained such a large amount of pure mana. Herman was now certain that if he erupted with that mana, the explosion might even be able to knock down an Archmage like Suyass, let alone the young mage before his eyes.

But Herman was in no hurry.

Herman still maintained his Devouring Hand.

Because he wanted to see that young mage slowly despair, he wanted to see the helplessness on his face, like all his previous opponents did as he used the Devouring Hand.

Everyone in the Black Tower knew that Herman took great joy and pleasure in killing Gaugass Battle Mages and watch them as they wept in despair.

But Herman had miscalculated this time.

The Devouring Hand was already operating at its limit, mana was frantically pouring in, yet the young mage in front of him didn't seem afraid. On the contrary, he was still looking at Herman with a smile.

"Indeed, I don't have much time left to study this fascinating ability, this is quite regretful..."

"Hmm?" For some reason, Herman felt cold when he heard that young mage's calm words.

This was a rare feeling for Herman.

Herman carefully recalled, it felt the same as a few years ago, when he entered the Gold Forest's Somal Magic City. When he stole that Abyssal Evil Dragon's eye, the Dark Elf Queen looked at him in the exact same way.

'This feels so similar...'

'It's the same hair-raising feeling...'

'But why?'

'A barbarian from Gaugass, a twenty years old mage, how could he make me feel this way?'

Unfortunately, Herman didn't have time to think.

He suddenly discovered that the mana within his body had become chaotic. This feeling was akin to having countless vipers digging into his body and frantically stirring his insides.

It didn't take long before Herman's inner shirt became drenched in cold sweat.

Herman was panicking, it wasn't as if Herman never suffered from mana disorder, after all, a strange ability like the Devouring Hand wasn't something that should appear on a mage. That ability was too evil and dangerous, thus Herman never used this ability to absorb mana for himself, he only used it to create an explosion with the stolen mana.

It was because he was so careful that Herman managed to repeatedly survive dangers.

Herman had suffered from mana disorder before and always managed to resolve it.

But it was the first time he suffered from a mana disorder as troublesome as today's.

That incomparable pain far exceeded even the harshest torture imaginable.

A mix of panic and fear flashed on Herman's face.

'Why is it like this?'

Herman seemed to have gone mad as a painful shout rushed out from the depths of his throat. He staggered a few steps back before pointing at Lin Yun, his other hand covering his own stomach. He struggled to open his mouth, but no sound came out.

"What a pity..." Lin Yun shook his head with a regretful expression.

Lin Yun might be the only one knowing that he wasn't sarcastic and was truly feeling regretful.

Herman's Devouring Hand was extremely rare, even with his era-transcending knowledge, it was the first time Lin Yun heard about this ability.

He truly wanted to research this ability...

Unfortunately, he didn't have the opportunity.

This time, Lin Yun used the Magic Array. That was ten different sources of power, along with an extra two Alchemic Mana Whirlpool. In other words, Lin Yun's mana output was 12 times that of an ordinary mage.

It was as if Herman devoured the mana of twelve High Mages, if he didn't suffer from mana disorder after that, then the Devouring Hand would be truly unequalled.

Added to the previous Spiritual Magic Staff's mana, the outcome was to be expected.

"I'm very interested in knowing what your Meditation Law Set is..." Lin Yun stood in front of Herman with a smile, not gathering his mana, nor ending the battle with an Icicle or a Wind Blade. He also didn't use a defensive spell.

It wasn't that Lin Yun forgot to defend himself or attack his enemy, they were in a deadly battle after all, it's just that Lin Yun already knew that there was no need.

Herman was already tortured by that mana disorder, he might even end up being crippled. Let alone attacking Lin Yun, even moving a finger was difficult for him.

But Lin Yun didn't immediately act against Herman, he didn't pierce his chest with an Icicle, nor did he cut his throat with a Wind Blade.

He was still curious about the Devouring Hand.

"Haha..." Herman bitterly smiled, but he looked Lin Yun in the eyes.

This was the pride of an Archmage...

Mage able to rise to the Archmage realm were all talented people, which of them didn't have a glorious path? Even if he was in a desperate situation, Herman was still unwilling to lower his head.

He was even less willing to bow to a Gaugass' barbarian.

"You... You wish to know? Ha... Haha..." Under the torture of the mana disorder, Herman had already lost his poise. He said in an icy voice filled with hatred, "It's possible... It's possible if you come to the Black Tower... I'll let those guards in the Obsidian Prison... Tell you what Meditation... Meditation Law Set it is..."

"No need for such trouble..." Lin Yun kept his smile and didn't care about Herman who was now laying on the ground as he rubbed the ring he wore.

"Fuck, why are you disturbing this Lord? I just managed to fall asleep..." The ethereal figure of the Ghost Wolf who called himself Lord Shawn appeared in the laboratory. His figure was already a lot more solid compared to the first time Lin Yun saw him. Lin Yun knew that he had mostly recovered due to the large amount of mana crystals he received, especially that soul mana crystal...

Even if Shawn wasn't at his peak, he wasn't that far off.

Something trivial such as extorting a weakened Archmage shouldn't be a problem.

"Help this Sir Herman, make him remember the Meditation Law Set he had learnt. As for the reward, you can get two Level 15 mana crystals."

After saying this, Lin Yun didn't care how Shawn took care of Herman and only turned towards Suyass, "Sir Suyass, long time no see! The processing of my magic materials should be under your responsibility, right?"

"Long time no see, Merlin..." Suyass smiled, but that smile seemed somewhat bitter.

After coming back from the Four Seasons Canyon, Suyass had been shocked by that young mage's power but kept a respectful attitude most of the time. Since he couldn't afford to offend him, he actually stayed away.

But Suyass knew that he couldn't hide today.

Chapter 326: Introduction

Suyass still couldn't understand how the battle ended.

It looked like Herman who had the whole situation under control and was just toying with Lin Yun suddenly fell to the ground, struggling, while the young mage who should have ended up suffering from mana exhaustion won in a baffling way.

This was too strange, too unimaginable.

Suyass didn't know what just happened.

The whole fight ended in an inexplicable way.

Suyass felt that he couldn't see through that young High Mage...

When looking at his youthful face, he would feel an inexplicable fear.

"What is it, Sir Suyass?"

"Eh, nothing..." Suyass shook his head, throwing these chaotic thoughts out of his mind before regaining the poise of an Archmage, "I truly hadn't expected that batch of magic materials to be yours, Merlin..."

"Ah? Sir Karon didn't specify it...?" Lin Yun felt a bit strange. Karon should have known he was familiar with Suyass, so why did he not mention it when organizing the task...

"Ahah, Karon is too busy recently..." A bitter smile appeared on Suyass' face, "There has been some trouble in the Gold Forest Plane. Teacher has to remain there and Karon became very busy, supporting the Gold Forest Plane while managing the Mercury Tower. I didn't exchange more than ten sentences with Karon in the past two months. When he arranged the task, he only said that these magic materials were very important..."

"No wonder..." Hearing this, Lin Yun couldn't help sighing. Karon was very good towards him... He still helped him take care of his batch of magic materials.

"Oh right, I heard you met some trouble while refining the Darkness Evil Python Skin?"

"Eh..." Suyass froze, before looking at Lin Yun with a happy expression.

'Damn, why didn't I think about it before...'

'Isn't he a peak Master Alchemist...?'

'Moreover, the alchemy knowledge he displayed in Vaughn's ruins was far superior to mine... Me not being able to solve the solidification process of the Darkness Evil Python's Skin didn't mean that he couldn't...'

Had it been someone else, Suyass might have had apprehensions. After all, wasn't it shameful to ask for help from another Master Alchemist as a Master Alchemist?

But there was no issue if it was this person, Suyass felt no shame asking him for help.

Not to mention, this batch of magic materials originally was his, he was most welcome to come and help.

Thus, Suyass didn't think much before saying, "Merlin, how about you give us some pointers..."

"Eh..." Lin Yun hadn't thought that Suyass would be so direct.

But it didn't bother him, after all, it was his magic materials.

"Giving pointers is fine, but this isn't the best place for this. Suyass can you help me with the current issue?" Lin Yun looked around. The surroundings had been ruined by the Devouring Hand, and Herman who had been laying on the ground had been dragged to a corner by Shawn. Lin Yun helplessly shook his head, "Well, it's fine, let's change room first. We can borrow Sir Karon's laboratory..."

"Good, I'll immediately send someone to put it in order." After Suyass said those words, he turned to glance at the dumbstruck Barlow, "Still not moving?!"

"Yes, yes, yes..." Barlow shook as if he had just woken up from a dream. He fearfully glanced at Lin Yun before quickly lowering his head and leaving the laboratory, as if he was fleeing from a predator.

After going through the laboratory doors, Barlow let out a long sigh of relief.

He carefully closed the doors, his back drenched in cold sweat.

Barlow truly didn't know how he managed to leave that laboratory alive...

He also didn't know when he became so bold.

'Too frightening...'

Barlow only felt fear as he thought about it, how could he dare attack such a monster? how could he accuse him of being a Battle Mage?

Thankfully Suyass had appeared.

Barlow only understood now why Suyass was acting like that when he came in, it wasn't because Suyass loathed him, but rather, because Suyass wanted to save his life.

And the ridiculous part was that he hadn't understood and inwardly cursed Suyass a few times.

Now that he thought about it, he had overdone it a bit. If not for Suyass' timely arrival, Barlow would have ended in the same state as Herman.

'I was so lucky...'

Barlow patted his chest as he went to the top floor of the Mercury Tower to sort out Karon's laboratory.

At that time, Suyass gathered the alchemists.

There had been about twenty alchemists tasked by Karon, five of which were Master Alchemists while the rest were pretty good Great Alchemists.

It could be seen from this that Karon did his best for Lin Yun's matter. Suyass, Barlow and five more Master Alchemists, this was a total of 7 Master Alchemists, along with over a dozen outstanding Great Alchemists. This kind of line-up could be described as luxurious.

These were the elites of the Mercury Tower.

After being notified by Suyass, the alchemists came to Karon's laboratory one after the other, most of them carrying a puzzled expression as they looked at Suyass and Lin Yun.

"This is Mafa Merlin, from Thousand Sails City..." Suyass took a step back, moving a bit to let Lin Yun stand out, "He is the owner of the magic materials you are working on..."

Suyass' words led to a commotion.

Many people had been guessing who the owner of those magic materials was after Karon gave them their task.

They were wondering because the price of these magic materials was shockingly high.

They could even be described as priceless.

They had privately estimated the price of that batch of magic materials to be at least ten million golds.

Ten million golds...

This was no joke, this was a crazy price even in a place like Okland, it would be very strenuous even for a force like the Mercury Tower to gather that amount of golds to buy magic materials.

Thus, they all thought that these magic materials belonged to one of Okland's peak forces like the Cloud Tower, the Black Tower, Okland Magic School, or the two Great Families.

Only these millennial forces could spend ten million golds without blinking.

In any case, these magic materials shook the Mercury Tower far more than Lin Yun could have imagined.

And they could finally see the owner today...

A young man in his early twenties...

The alchemists all flared up, they all started whispering among themselves, making conjectures on that young mage's identity.

"How could he be so wealthy? That was ten million golds after all..."

"Wait, Sir Suyass introduced him as Mafa Merlin..."

"Mafa Merlin, Mafa Merlin..."

“Could he be someone of the Merlin Family?”

They thought it made sense. As one of the three Great Families, the wealth the Merlin Family gathered over a millennium could only be described as terrifying, it wouldn't be too strange for them to take out magic materials worth ten millions.

But Mafa Merlin's name seemed a bit strange...

The name of the three great geniuses of the Merlin Family had widely spread in the last few years, Ross Merlin, Aube Merlin, Leon Merlin. These three geniuses had become High Mages at a young age and could be considered famous among the various major forces.

But Mafa Merlin...

No one ever heard of this Merlin.

“Is he the newest genius of the Merlin Family?”

“No matter how talented he is, it's unlikely that the ten million golds came from his hand...”

“And he does look very familiar with Sir Suyass.”

“Oh, could he be Sir Suyass' disciple?”

A few Master Alchemists quickly reacted and thought of this possibility.

They considered it and felt that it was highly possible. Everyone in the Mercury Tower knew of Fran and Suyass' trip to Thousand Sails City, moreover, not a word of what happened in Thousand Sails City was leaked, and no one was willing to ask them.

“Could Sir Suyas have accepted this disciple on that trip?”

“Then, this Mafa Merlin relied on Sir Suyass' fame to be valued by the Merlin Family?”

“No wonder...”

Suyass was a newly advanced Archmage as well as a peak Master Alchemist, he was currently in the limelight and even peak Archmages would be polite towards him.

Mafa Merlin would definitely be valued by the Merlin Family if Suyass was his teacher, it wouldn't be strange for him to take care of this batch of magic materials.

Chapter 327: Alchemy Formula

“Merlin came over this time to help everyone solve the problem of the Darkness Evil Python Skin's magic solidification...”

“What?”

Suyass' words caused a commotion.

Everyone reacted strongly, all thinking, ‘So is this Suyass' disciple or not?’

Everyone thought that Suyass had brought Mafa Merlin over just to introduce him so that they could show him some consideration in the future.

Naturally, they would definitely have had to show some respect...

Suyass was Nolan's disciple, and with both Karon and Nolan in the Gold Forest Plane, Suyass was the person in charge of the Mercury Tower.

Moreover, Suyass usually had a very good attitude.

Besides being a bit arrogant, he could be said to be almost perfect. They had to show some consideration when he was introducing his disciple.

That was what they all thought at first.

Some of them even thought that they should take it a step further and were secretly preparing to give him some gifts.

But then Suyass' next words stumped everyone.

They wanted to ask him, 'Sir Suyass, what do you mean? We all spent a considerable amount of time on it, yet we couldn't solve the Darkness Evil Python Skin's magic solidification. Saying that your disciple can solve it... What do you think of us? You aren't even an Artisan...'

The laboratory was eerily quiet, and the alchemists were all looking at Suyass with frowns.

They were all dissatisfied, but no one retorted out of respect for Suyass.

"Merlin, you should say a few words."

"Okay." Lin Yun nodded. He stepped forward, and he wasn't as polite as Suyass.

Because he didn't have the time to be polite, as he would rather cut to the chase.

If the Doom Staff reached the True Spirit rank one day later, it meant that Lin Yun would have to wait one extra day before being able to enter the Tulan Mountains. It would also be an extra day without having the Meditation Law Set of the Gaugass King. This would affect Lin Yun's future magic path, and this was more important to him than wasting time on niceties.

"I have two ways to complete the magic solidification of the Darkness Evil Python Skin," Lin Yun said while taking out two pieces of paper from his pocket. Written on them were the processing plans he had prepared beforehand.

But someone interrupted him just as he started talking.

"Ridiculous!" An old man with grey hair came out from the crowd. His hair seemed to stand up on his head, most likely due to being too agitated. "Immature kid, you dare come here to speak nonsense? Do you even know any of the Seven Great Formulas? Do you even understand Hawkins' Theorem? Don't think that you can ignore others after learning some alchemy under Suyass. Indeed, this old man might not be gifted, and I might not be lucky enough to become an Artisan during my life, but I've lived for over a hundred years and personally completed no less than fifty Spiritual Magic Tools! Have you even

seen that many? You don't put me in your eyes? Well, with one word, this old man can make you no longer welcome in the Mercury Tower and make you leave with your magic materials!"

"Uncle Griffith, don't worry..." Suyass moved forward with a bitter smile.

"Beat it!" But the one Suyass called Uncle Griffith didn't even look at this newly advanced Archmage as he pushed him away.

Had it been someone else, that movement would have been enough to be a major offense. After all, Suyass was an Archmage and a peak Master Alchemist, he was one of the greatest existences in the Mercury Tower, yet he was pushed away like that...

But Suyass didn't dare to be angry. He instead squeezed out a smile as he awkwardly tried to advise the old man.

Because that old man was Griffith...

He was one of the senior figures of the Mercury Tower, having started following Nolan several decades ago, when he was still a youth. Although he didn't have much talent in the field of alchemy, by relying on hard work and diligence, he staggered into the Master Alchemist realm in eighty years, becoming one of the pillars of the Mercury Tower alongside Karon and Suyass, who were younger by a few decades. Griffith's innate talent was simply not worth mentioning.

But the status of the talentless Griffith in the Mercury Tower wasn't low at all.

He was someone who had followed Nolan for close to a century. He had always been very conscientious and had made so many contributions to the Mercury Tower. Even Karon would be respectful in front of Griffith.

But...

The entire Mercury Tower knew that Griffith was irascible.

Suyass had experienced it firsthand...

In those days, when Suyass had just become Nolan's apprentice, the first task he gave him was to serve as Griffith's assistant.

Suyass suffered for an entire three years.

To be honest, Griffith was a very good teacher for building foundations. His knowledge of the basics was very good, and he was a very rigorous and proper teacher.

It's just that his character wasn't very good...

Suyass could still remember Griffith's temperament... It had been hard for him to avoid making mistakes when he had just become an assistant.

It was then that Suyass learnt of that old man's bad temper. He was greeted by a thunderous roar the first time he made a mistake. This completely terrified the 20-year-old Suyass. And soon, Suyass made a second mistake. That time, he was hit by a flying beaker.

This continued for an entire three years.

This caused Suyass to be meticulous in his alchemy work. He never forgot Griffith's hellish teachings even after he became a peak Master Alchemist, and he always operated in a textbook manner.

From this, it could be seen how inflexible and irritable Griffith was.

When Suyass saw that the one complaining was Griffith, he inwardly grumbled.

Had it been anyone else, Suyass would have used his authority to pressure them. But Suyass didn't dare do that with Griffith.

Those three years were a nightmare to Suyass, having left him with a deep trauma.

Thus, Suyass retreated...

"You said that you have two methods to settle the problem of the Darkness Evil Python Skin? Good, I shall give you an opportunity to prove yourself..." After saying that in a rough tone, Griffith took out a piece of paper from his pocket and wrote down a formula. He then coldly snorted, "Solve this formula and I'll believe in your abilities."

Griffith was very angry. Let alone Suyass, even the other Master Alchemists and Great Alchemists couldn't stop themselves from backing away a bit. That old man's temper was famous in the Mercury Tower, and his status was so great that it could be compared to Karon's. No one in the Mercury Tower would be foolish enough to offend him.

At this time, many people started sympathizing with that Mafa Merlin.

He really was unlucky.

Normally, with Suyass's introduction, even if he said something unpleasant, they would have pretended not to have heard it out of respect for Suyass.

But he was very unlucky today, because Griffith was here...

The old man was too inflexible and took the field of alchemy very seriously. How could he not intervene when he heard that youth boasting in front of him like that?

And should the youth step down now that Griffith had locked onto him?

They were all thinking about it, feeling that this young mage could only refuse to attempt that formula. The field of alchemy was vast... Who would dare to say that they were proficient with every formula? This matter would be settled as long as that Mafa Merlin dared to say that he wasn't proficient with that formula. Although he would lose some prestige, this was his only way out at this point.

Griffith was almost a hundred years old, could he force that twenty-year-old kid to pick up a quill and a sheet of paper and work on that formula?

In the eyes of those alchemists, Mafa Merlin's choice was clear.

Besides this, there was no other way...

Or would he think that he could really crack that formula?

Griffith had studied alchemy for nearly a hundred years. Although his talent was limited, after spending eighty years staggering along that path, even Suyass couldn't compare to his experience. Would he take out an alchemy formula that an average person could crack?

But against everyone's expectations...

The young man didn't even think about it as he went to pick up the piece of paper. "Sure."

"Oh?"

Many of them thought they had misheard...

'How? Is that Mafa Merlin Crazy? Does he want to become a laughingstock?'

'He is being too stubborn...'

"Haha, good. I shall see if you can uphold the reputation of the Merlin Family..." Hearing Lin Yun's answer, Griffith sneered as he handed him the piece of paper.

Chapter 328: Fess Formula

"Turns out it's the Fess Formula..." Lin Yun chuckled after taking out the piece of paper. He casually grabbed a quill from his pocket and moved to a nearby refining table to start writing.

"So pretentious..." Griffith coldly snorted as he looked at Lin Yun with a newfound disgust.

At first, Griffith had only disliked that young man's boasting. He was only in his twenties, yet he was boasting in such a way, saying that he had two methods of solving the Darkness Evil Python Skin's magic solidification.

But the "Fess Formula" that the young man mentioned suddenly made Griffith loathe him.

'Ridiculous... That Mafa kid doesn't even know the name of that formula...'

'What Fess Formula, I copied that formula from vestiges of the 3rd Dynasty thirty years ago, and the name "Lauren Formula" was clearly written on top. It was one of the three major formulas written by the famous Artisan of the 3rd Dynasty, the Life Alchemist, Lauren.'

'You think you are so great, pretending to understand something you don't and dubbing it as the Fess Formula...'

Griffith remained silent, sneering as he looked at Lin Yun.

At this time, Lin Yun was so focused that he couldn't sense the change in Griffith's expression. He was completely immersed in breaking the alchemy formula. To Lin Yun, a formula of this level wasn't anything too complicated, and he worked for only about four minutes before he put down his quill. He picked up the sheet of paper and handed it to Griffith.

"Mafa Merlin, isn't it? Let me give you a piece of advice. It is good for youths to be ambitious, but losing respect for their elders in the process leads to disaster..." Griffith didn't seem to be in a hurry to check the piece of paper and only sighed, as if his interest had waned.

“Eh? Master Alchemist Griffith, how about you check it first?”

“Haha, check? Check what? Check how you are pretending? Check your nonsense? You don’t even know the name of the formula, how could you have the qualifications to make me check your gibberish?”

“Eh?” Lin Yun froze. ‘Impossible, the formula he gave me is definitely the Fess Formula.’

Lin Yun was very sure of this.

Lin Yun might occasionally be mistaken about other things, but the Fess Formula was used in many different applications. It could be used in the Physical Enhancement Formula, which was a very important skill at the end of the magic era as it didn’t need to rely on mana. Lin Yun used physical means to complete the Physical Enhancement several times and used it to handle some sand beasts on several occasions, so how could he be mistaken about the Fess Formula?

“Let me tell you the truth. What you think is the Fess Formula is actually the Lauren Formula. This is the proud work of the Life Alchemist, Lauren, who was a fellow student to Emperor Zhantui and the Gaugass King. Fess Formula? What a joke. Being an alchemist that doesn’t know something isn’t scary, what’s truly scary is pretending to know when you don’t.”

After saying this, the old man no longer looked at Lin Yun and threw that piece of paper to the ground before turning to leave the laboratory.

‘Lauren Formula, Lauren Formula...’ Lin Yun contemplated these two words when he suddenly thought of something. ‘How could I forget this? This is a huge misunderstanding...

‘The Lauren Formula and the Fess Formula are one and the same...’

They were only named differently.

This was a well-known joke in history.

But the truth wasn’t something that the mages of this era knew.

He had to clear up the misunderstanding first.

Seeing the old man reach the door of the laboratory, Lin Yun had no choice but to loudly say, “Whether it’s the Lauren or the Fess Formula, the seven variables would stay the same. The key to cracking this formula relies on calculating these seven variables, and that’s not difficult...”

“Eh?”

Griffith suddenly stopped at the door.

“In fact, one only has to use the Five Color Theorem, there is nothing complicated in that.”

“What did you say?” The old man abruptly turned around and stared at Lin Yun for no less than ten seconds before coming back over. He stooped and picked up the paper that he had thrown to the ground and quickly looked at it in an impatient way.

But after reading, his expression suddenly changed.

He was amazed at first, but soon, the amazement turned to shock, before being followed by disbelief. He shook his head as he looked at the paper. "Impossible, impossible, how could it be so simple..."

It had taken Lin Yun less than five minutes to solve this formula.

But Griffith spent no less than twenty minutes reading that solution.

After twenty minutes, the pale old man let out a long sigh before gently putting that piece of paper on the refining table. He then showed a bitter smile. "But how could you not know that its name is the Lauren Formula?"

"Several thousand years ago, Lauren, who was known as the Alchemist of Life, had a disciple named Fess. The one who killed the Dark Phoenix with his own hands, Wind Sage Fess. Haven't you noticed that this formula's style is completely different from Lauren's style?"

"You mean..." Doubt appeared on Griffith's face. 'It does look strange... The style of that alchemy formula is very different from the other two major formulas. Could it be...'

"Haha, this is quite normal. If you study the history of the 3rd dynasty, you would discover that there were a lot of bad practices during that era. For example, any research results made within thirty years of apprenticeship in the field of alchemy would be put under the teacher's name. You would understand if you checked Lauren's testament. On his deathbed, three-quarters of that testament repeated how much he owed Fess and how he left all his heritage for Fess. This debt, haha..."

"This... Isn't that just your conjecture?" For the meticulous Griffith, the alchemist ancestors were like idols. He wouldn't allow doubts or blasphemy. Even if what Lin Yun said sounded fair, the old man couldn't help calling him into question.

"I do have some evidence, but there isn't much time today. If Master Alchemist Griffith is interested, it can wait until the problem of my Darkness Evil Python Skin's magic solidification has been solved, I can discuss this with you then, alright?"

"Alright, alright..." Griffith repeatedly nodded, but after doing so, he looked doubtfully at Lin Yun. "But, Merlin, can you really solve the problem of the Darkness Evil Python Skin's magic solidification?"

"Haha, I did say I had two methods..."

"..."

"Uncle Griffith..." Seeing the old man remaining suspicious, Suyass couldn't help coming close to Griffith and whispering in his ear, "Merlin has higher achievement in the field of alchemy than I do."

"What!" Griffith suddenly jumped.

Better than Suyass...

Although Griffith could be considered Suyass' teacher in the field of alchemy, that irascible and inflexible old man knew that Suyass had already surpassed him in his own field and reached the peak of the Master Alchemist realm a few years ago.

But now, this peak Master Alchemist said that Mafa Merlin was better than him in the field of alchemy...

How close was he to the Artisan realm?

This...

Griffith was completely stunned. This was outrageous. The youth before his eyes didn't seem older than twenty, he was even younger than his own disciple's disciple...

Yet he was a peak Master Alchemist close to the Artisan realm at this age!

Was he going mad? Or was the world going mad?

"He... He isn't your disciple?" Griffith asked with a strange expression.

"Eeeeh? Uncle Griffith, don't joke like that..." Suyass was frightened when he heard this. 'Words can't be taken back! This person's temper isn't very good...

'In fact, he isn't much different from you in that respect. Even Herman of the Black Tower accidentally provoked him with his Devouring Hand and ended up running out of luck. He is still in the laboratory under us, being extorted by that strange Ghost Wolf. It doesn't matter what you say, old man, just don't create trouble for me...'

"Looks like he really isn't your disciple..." Griffith was very old, and although he was inflexible and irritable, he was very good at interpreting body language. He saw the fear in Suyass' face and knew that he had made a wrong guess. How could a teacher be this afraid of his student?

But he still felt strange. "How could there be such a young peak Master Alchemist..."

"Ahah, I also don't know."

While Lin Yun was handing the two pieces of paper to a Great Alchemist, Griffith kept whispering with Suyass, "There is such a genius in this world that can accomplish in twenty years what most people can't accomplish in their lifetimes, isn't that a bit too much?"

"Right, Teacher regards him as very important. If not for the Gold Forest Plane's trouble, Teacher would have personally waited for him. I think Teacher wants to take him to the Starry Sky College..."

"Right! Those old monsters of the Starry Sky College would be very interested in him. Yes, yes, it should be like that..."

Chapter 329: Lively and Energetic

The two of them having a discussion about a secret of the Mercury Tower that no more than ten people were qualified to participate in. Thus, they were busy whispering in a corner, to the point that they didn't even notice that the laboratory was bustling with noise and excitement.

The pair of them were stunned when they finally paid attention to the others.

"What happened?" Griffith seemed unhappy. In the eyes of that inflexible old man, this was a clear disregard for the rules.

But then, Griffith found out that it was all because of those two thin stacks of paper.

Those papers passed between the Master Alchemists and the Great Alchemists. Each time they changed hands, they would lead to an alarmed shout, as if they were seeing something they weren't normally allowed to see.

They all started discussing this...

And at the core of those discussions was the young Master Alchemist, Mafa Merlin, who had come up with what was written there.

'Is he really that formidable?'

Although he had already heard from Suyass that this Mafa Merlin was a peak Master Alchemist, Griffith couldn't really accept the fact that he could create such a stir with just these papers. He hesitated a bit before quietly pulling a Master Alchemist aside, mostly out of curiosity, but also out of doubt.

"What's written on those two stacks of papers?"

"Too amazing, too formidable..." That Master alchemist was in his fifties and appeared to be in the prime of his life. He had clearly been startled greatly by what he had seen. He wanted to answer to Griffith, but couldn't figure out where he should start.

"Don't be so chaotic, just say the important part!" Griffith's expression darkened.

"Eh, eh, the important part..." Just like Suyass, that Master Alchemist used to be an assistant in Griffith's laboratory. He had also been devastated by the experience, and it had left a huge shadow in his heart. Although he had already become a Master Alchemist, he immediately started sweating when he saw Griffith's severe expression.

"This Mafa Merlin didn't lie, he wrote two methods that can truly take care of the solidification problem of the Darkness Evil Python Skin, but..."

"But what?"

"But these two methods are very strange."

"What do you mean?"

"There are two methods, one is simple, one is complicated, and they have completely different styles..."

The middle-aged man stopped there because he couldn't figure out how to explain it better, so he waved a colleague to bring the papers over before giving one to Griffith. "You should check this one first, it has a total of seven formulas interlocked, it also has countless variables, and in these, an astronomical amount of things had to be calculated..."

"Hmm..." Griffith looked through the stack of paper in his hand as he nodded. The middle-aged man's explanation was spot-on. The method Mafa Merlin described there was certainly extremely complicated, and a frightening quantity of calculations were packed in this solution.

"Check this one next..."

"Hmm?" Griffith was a bit surprised when he took the second stack of paper. "This... This is this simple?"

“Yes, simple to the point of being frightening...” The middle-aged man shook his head, the expression on his face somewhat desolate. He had read these papers no less than ten times, but he would still be startled every time.

“...” Griffith didn’t know what to say for a while.

If the first method had reached the peak of complexity, then the second method reached the peak of simplicity. It was a kind of rough simplicity... It didn’t have any principles, it was purely an unconstrained thought. Find one gap and ignore everything else to settle the issue.

One complex, one simple.

Two completely different styles came from the same alchemist.

And that alchemist was so young.

This kind of ability qualified him to occupy a place at the grand meeting of the Starry Sky College.

As Griffith was discussing it with the others, Lin Yun quietly left the alchemy laboratory. Giving them the two solutions was enough for Lin Yun because he knew that the Mercury Tower would naturally work out the details.

He had something more important to deal with.

Lin Yun left Karon’s laboratory and went to the lower floor once again, to the place where he fought Herman.

“Hmm?” Lin Yun noticed a thick smell of blood just as he was about to enter.

‘No way?’ Lin Yun was startled as he thought, ‘Shawn wouldn’t have killed him, right? That wouldn’t be good.’

No matter what, Herman was still an important person in the Black Tower. From what Suyass had said, he was like Mason’s uncle and would most likely join the Black Tower’s Elder Council soon.

That was the core of the Black Tower. Once one entered the Elder Council, they would have the power to control countless mages’ prospects and fates. If that kind of person died in the Mercury Tower, would the Black Tower leave the matter at that?

To be honest, Lin Yun dreaded the Black Tower a bit.

In the Magic Hand’s gathering in the Ash Tower, the master of the Black Tower that Jouyi had called “Ladyboy” left a profound expression in Lin Yun’s mind. That was someone who could do anything to get what he wanted. He might even shake the hand of someone that he considered his mortal enemy for some benefits. The Black Tower was definitely troublesome when led by this person.

However...

No one in this era understood more than Lin Yun how fearsome the Black Tower would become in the future. It was hardly an exaggeration to say that the future Black Tower, and the Cloud Tower as well, would crush all the other forces of Andlusa and become one of the peak powers of Noscent.

Unless he absolutely couldn't avoid it, Lin Yun would rather not become their enemies.

As he thought about this, Lin Yun rushed in and found a dying Herman in the corner of the laboratory.

Shawn was truly vicious and merciless, and Herman was now laying on the ground. He had no visible wounds, but his mind had already collapsed. His eyes were empty, and there was no anger, no emotion. He didn't react at all when Lin Yun walked over. If Lin Yun hadn't noticed his faint breathing, he might really have thought that this Archmage from the Black Tower was dead.

His breathing was weak and rough, and he looked like a corpse. When Lin Yun yelled at Herman to try to rouse him, he didn't get a response.

"I did say that no answer could be hidden from me..." At this time, the figure of the Ghost Wolf appeared from the shadows and looked just as brazen as usual.

"Hey, Lord Shawn, aren't you a bit too ruthless? This guy is almost dead. He is an important figure of the Black Tower, how would I be able to explain if you kill him..." Lin Yun was a bit worried.

Herman took the initiative to attack him and ended up shooting himself in the foot. He was in the wrong for that and even if Harren personally came over to confront him, he wouldn't become hostile with him because of this.

But...

Death was another matter altogether.

After all, that was someone who would enter the Black Tower's Elder Council.

"Rest assured, Lord Shawn knows how to act. If you are worried, I can make him lively and energetic..." After saying that, Shawn chanted a few words and some soul power struck Herman.

This caused the corpse laying on the ground to suddenly jump up.

Herman let out a blood-curdling scream as he rose, and Lin Yun couldn't help showing a sympathetic expression.

"See, lively and energetic!" Shawn's voice was full of pride.

"..." But Lin Yun's expression was rather dull.

"Oh right, I had him make a copy of the Meditation Law Set you wanted, it's on the refining table there, you should check it out first. I still have some things to take care of..."

After Shawn finished, he directly transformed into smoke, wanting to go back in the Soul Walker.

"Stop." Lin Yun wasn't a fool. How could he let him run away? Before Shawn got close to the Soul Walker, Lin Yun had already raised his hand. Sparks appeared all around as ten blazing rays interweaved together, forming a decently-sized cage around Shawn.

"Fuck, what are you doing? Biting the hand that fed you?"

“Lord Shawn, you seem to have forgotten to ask for your reward?” Lin Yun ignored Shawn’s curse and only looked at that flaming cage as he asked with a smile, “This isn’t your style, that’s a Level 25 mana crystal...”

“...” Shawn was sluggish and evasive as he turned towards Lin Yun, but Shawn was still Shawn. Even under such circumstances, he wouldn’t feel guilty and wouldn’t admit any mistakes. “What about it? I’m in a good mood today and I don’t need that reward, is there a problem with that?”

“Haha, Lord Shawn, your words might trick others, but how could you trick me? You would never let off a Level 5 mana crystal, yet you aren’t even caring about a Level 25 mana crystal? I wonder what this means?”

Chapter 330: Assimilation

“No time, I want to sleep!” Shawn started struggling in his black smoke form, looking around the cages of flame rays for a way to escape.

But it was a cage made by Lin Yun, so how could escaping be easy? Shawn circled inside the cage for a few minutes but didn’t find a way to break through, so he finally gave up, transforming back into a Ghost Wolf before lazily resting on his stomach, pretending to be sleepy.

“Haha, let’s talk about it...” Lin Yun obviously knew about this guy’s character. He didn’t get angry and only extended a hand. “The Evil Dragon Eye?”

It was a simple sentence, but Shawn twitched a bit when he heard it. After nervously looking at Lin Yun for a while, he realized that he’d reacted too strongly and went back to pretending to sleep. But the next time he talked wasn’t as natural as before.

“What... What Evil Dragon Eye? I don’t understand what you are saying!”

“Don’t pretend. Herman has a True Spirit Magic Tool on him called the Evil Dragon Eye. It is made from the eye of an Abyssal Evil Dragon from the Gold Forest Plane and he would flaunt it pretty often. Every child in Okland knows about it, do you think you can hide it from me?”

“Eh...”

“Eh what? Take it out quickly.”

Shawn’s eyes were wide open for a while before he suddenly let out, “I can’t take it out anymore...”

“Don’t joke with me...” Lin Yun’s voice rose a few notches.

“I truly can’t take it out...” Shawn’s voice started carrying a sobbing tone. “You think I really want that Evil Dragon Eye? The problem is that I can’t take it out, I have no way to do so. Can you take out the Evil Dragon Eye for me?”

“You are saying the truth?”

“Of course...”

“Tell me, what the hell happened!” A vein was pulsating on Lin Yun’s forehead. The Evil Dragon Eye was a True Spirit Magic Tool. It was invaluable in this era, having power equivalent to that of an Archmage.

Even if Lin Yun could take out ten million golds, he would only be able to get some magic materials...

If he truly wanted to buy a True Spirit Magic Tool, ten or twenty million wouldn’t be enough. After all, a Spiritual Magic Tool could start a long war, so how could Lin Yun not be angry now that a True Spirit Magic Tool went missing, how could he not fly into a rage?

Shawn had a dejected expression as he was glared at by Lin Yun.

“I really don’t know, I only felt that this guy seemed to be hiding a very strange aura that might have come from the Abyss or Hell. It was a very sinister aura, and I swear that I was just a little curious...”

“Just a little curious?”

“I swear!” After Shawn made his solemn vow, he didn’t forget to flaunt, “Lord Shawn is also a True Spirit Magic Tool, so I know how to act... I wouldn’t dare go for such a small thing that you coveted.”

“...” The vein on Lin Yun’s forehead pulsated faster. ‘This great True Spirit Magic Tool was likened to trash in your mouth.’

“In any case, this aura felt very familiar, and as you know, Lord Shawn has always been someone meticulous, so I would naturally study this interesting aura meticulously. Thus, Lord Shawn tore open this guy’s soul and found the source of that aura...”

“...” Lin Yun couldn’t help sympathizing with Herman when he heard this.

That Archmage was truly unlucky.

In hindsight, dying might be better than being left at the mercy of Lord Shawn.

‘Tearing a soul open...’

Anyone with a bit of understanding of souls would know how cruel and ruthless these casual words were. The feeling of having one’s soul being torn open was worse than any torture in this world. No wonder Herman had been half-dead on the ground...

“Then, I found out a huge eyeball embedded tightly in his chest, and it seemed to have been refined through alchemy. I tried to dig up the eyeball, but without any success. It actually made that guy bleed and some of his bones even broke...”

“...” Lin Yun took a deep breath, feeling as if he had already become numb to it all as he said, “Continue...”

“But I didn’t give up, you know, Lord Shawn is dedicated to research...” Shawn kept pretending as he explained, “Thus, I thought of a way and looked for the connection between the eyeball and him. And I have to say, it took me less than ten minutes to find it. It was a lot simpler afterwards, I broke the soul connection, separating him from the eyeball, and sure enough, the eyeball immediately fell from his chest...”

“You are truly...”

“Truly smart, aren’t I? Haha, I also think so. I don’t know what was going on with that eyeball, but after separating from his chest, it directly turned into ashes...”

“Into ashes?”

“Yes, into ashes...”

“Nonsense!” How could Lin Yun believe this? That eyeball was a True Spirit Magic Tool made from the eye of an Abyssal Evil Dragon. That was an item with power on par with that of Archmages, how could it turn to ashes for no reason?

“I am telling the truth! It truly turned to ashes...”

“Impossible!”

“I’m telling you the truth, if you don’t believe me, check yourself...”

Lin Yun looked suspiciously at Shawn.

He observed him closely for several minutes.

But in the end, Lin Yun couldn’t help sighing. The two of them had a master-slave contract, one of the closest types of connections. If Shawn lied to Lin Yun, he certainly wouldn’t be able to conceal it from him...

But Lin Yun couldn’t feel anything off from him.

This meant that what Lord Shawn was saying might actually be true... that the True Spirit Magic Tool truly turned to ashes.

‘Hold on...’

After initially feeling dejected, Lin Yun suddenly felt that something was wrong...

There was a faint light flickering on Shawn’s forehead.

“What is this?” Lin Yun looked at Shawn strangely, a grave expression on his face. “Could it be...”

“Hey, why are you looking at me like that?” Shawn was scared by Lin Yun’s gaze and his voice was a bit shaky...

“Come.”

“No!” When the scared Shawn was beckoned over by Lin Yun, immediately withdrawing in fear.

“Be less annoying!” Lin Yun was interested in that light and reached out his hand through the barrier made of flaming rays to grab Shawn.

“Let go! Fuck! Let go! You pervert! What do you think you are doing!?”

“Don’t move!” Lin Yun impatiently scolded as he stopped Shawn before carefully looking at that weak light.

Lin Yun could see it clearly now.

There was a faint ray of light flickering on Shawn's forehead, it just wasn't very distinct. If one didn't pay attention, they simply wouldn't notice that this light had a special shape, the shape of an eyeball.

Yes, an eyeball!

"Alright, go back..." After confirming that the light on Shawn's forehead had the shape of an eyeball, Lin Yun roughly understood what had happened and no longer had any interest in the troublesome Shawn. He waved his hand and the cage made of flaming rays flew over, sending Shawn into the Soul Walker Ring.

"Hey..." Shawn didn't have time to finish his words before Lin Yun cut off the mental connection between them.

But after going through all this, Lin Yun wasn't in a hurry to deal with the dying Herman. Instead, he picked up the copy of the Meditation Law Set that Herman had personally written.

He could see how formidable Shawn had been.

He was worthy of being an expert in the field of souls.

When it came to extortion, he was far sharper than Syudos, who was more useful when it came to raw power, as could be seen from what he had gotten out of Herman.

It was scarily thorough and detailed.

Who would tell their deepest secrets so thoroughly if they weren't truly filled with terror?

Shawn's fighting strength wasn't that great, but he was among the best out of Lin Yun's True Spirit Magic Tools.

Lin Yun chuckled as he thought about it.

In the field of power...

It might not take long before Shawn's flaw was fixed.

Lin Yun was almost certain that the faint light on Shawn's forehead was Herman's famous Evil Dragon Eye.

But before Lin Yun knew it, it had actually taken a liking to Shawn.

Lin Yun was certain that the power of the Evil Dragon Eye was already fusing with the incarnation. This must have been why the eyeball had instantly turned to ashes.

No matter how powerful a True Spirit Magic Tool was, it would just become an ordinary item if it lost its incarnation and power.

Just what kind of result would this change bring? Lin Yun himself didn't know. He could only let Shawn return to the Soul Walker's protection to slowly assimilate the Evil Dragon Eye's power and incarnation.