

## Magic Era 431

### Chapter 431: Roar

The power of the Bloodline Curse contained within Solan's soul had already become impure when the skeleton devoured him. And Baiers, who was possessing the Desolate Overlord's Incarnation, used the Bloodline Curse as a medium to transfer his soul into the skeleton, giving rise to the Regeneration phenomenon.

At the critical moment of the fusion between soul and body, just as Baiers reached Heaven Rank, the trap Lin Yun had set up was activated, causing the fusion to fail and the skeleton to suffer from the aftereffects, his power greatly falling from Heaven Rank to below level 38.

This was also the reason that Lin Yun had kept Solan alive! After all, in the 10th Floor of the magic tower, Solan used a Dragon Breath to try to kill him. With Lin Yun's character, he would never be able to tolerate such a threat and should have eliminated Solan.

But during the battle, he inadvertently discovered something abnormal about Solan. He felt that Solan was hiding a huge secret, so he kept him alive until Shawn woke up.

It was a bit laughable. Solan, who had always been enduring, would have never thought that he was only kept alive as a sacrificial pawn.

And he didn't let Lin Yun down. When Baier's body appeared, he immediately rushed over.

A dazzling spell left his hand as the flood of spells continued. Lin Yun couldn't help frowning. He hadn't expected that skeleton to be so powerful even after suffering such a loss. Moreover, half of its body was trapped in the ground, but even under such circumstances, the power displayed was far more terrifying than that of Lich Barton.

After all, there had been eleven of them battling Lich Barton, but the fight had still been very strenuous.

Fortunately, the skeleton couldn't move freely. If the other half of its body came out, then even if it only had the power of a peak level 37 powerhouse, they would definitely suffer.

"Crack..."

The battle continued for half an hour, and everyone including Lin Yun used a lot of mana. After all, they kept throwing spells at the skeleton for the entire time. This was far beyond the ability of an average person. One powerful attack after another fiercely crashed down before a subtle sound was eventually heard.

An insignificant crack appeared on the skeleton's glossy skull. All of them got a boost in morale when they saw this, and they started putting more power into their attacks.

The bound skeleton was a fixed target, but its bones were so hard that even under their nonstop attacks, it took half an hour to leave that small crack on its skull.

“It won’t be able to last much longer...” A voice echoed in midair. It came from Weiss, hidden behind his Wind Elemental Incarnation, and although he sounded happy, his hands just kept moving, casting one wind spell after the other.

He was attacking using very crafty angles, and although he wasn’t using high-tier spells, only using Wind Blast and Wind Blade, his spells were all targeted at the crack that appeared on the skull, slowly widening it fragment by fragment.

As time passed, the originally insignificant crack had already been enlarged a couple times and was now a few meters long, looking quite ghastly.

At this time, the young mage’s silhouette appeared in Weiss’ line of sight. Weiss was startled when he noticed that the young mage was less than five meters away from the skull, but he quickly calmed down. He knew of the young mage’s methods. Especially during those last few fights, he’d realized that although the mage was very young, Weiss was outclassed by him in both power and experience.

A Flame Burst landed in the crack, and following a loud rumble, countless bone fragments flew out. The skeleton let out a powerful roar, and those two phosphorus lights flickered crazily. Weiss was alarmed when he saw this.

This was what the skeleton had done before casting the white flames earlier. Weiss couldn’t help sweating for the young mage. He was less than five meters away from the skeleton, and if he was engulfed in the white flames, then even if he was a 7th Rank Archmage, he wouldn’t be able to withstand them.

He had experienced the power of the white flames. They were so frightening that even an Elemental Shield would be destroyed.

They obviously had the upper hand right now. As long as they had enough time, obliterating the skeleton’s Soul Fire wouldn’t be an issue. Rashly rushing forward was too reckless and shortsighted.

‘This isn’t good, I have to remind him!’

After all, the young mage had a huge impact as the core of this team. If they lost him, the team wouldn’t be able to contend against the skeleton.

Just as Weiss, who was hiding in the sky, was about to say something, he noticed a book emitting dense death aura in the young mage’s hands. It felt as if it was containing boundless death energy.

Then, two streams of black mist rushed out of the book, leaking auras that Weiss found familiar.

His eyes opened wide. He was thoroughly stunned and even forgot about warning the young mage.

‘Th... Th... That’s the Undead Horseman, and the Lich, how could this be?!’ Weiss didn’t dare to believe what was in front of him. His eyes were glued to the two undead behind Lin Yun, and he could clearly feel that the power of these two undead wasn’t inferior to his own. Even at his peak, Weiss would flee when facing that Lich.

‘Could they be... Mafa Merlin’s Summons?’

Although Weiss was in disbelief, the facts were in front of him. The young mage took out that mysterious book and the two powerful undead beings appeared. This was a bit too outrageous.

Weiss suddenly felt that he didn't really know that young mage at all...

After all, Lin Yun's methods were rather frightening. By relying on those two, he would be able to walk freely in the Andlusa Kingdom.

"Baiers, I'm afraid you might never be able to resurrect..."

After summoning the Undead Horseman and the Lich, Lin Yun chanted a very profound character and entered Unlimited Mode. The Doom Staff burst with dazzling lights. A spark rose up and enlarged a few times, emitting a blazing aura before turning into a Fire Dragon spell leaking shockingly intense heat. That Fire Dragon then struck the crack in the skull, sending sparks scattering in all directions, mixed with bone fragments.

In this instant, one fire spell after the other kept crashing against the skeleton's skull.

The intense explosions kept echoing continuously.

"Roar..."

The skeleton was thoroughly infuriated. It let out a pained shout before looking at the young mage less than five meters away. It then turned its body and stretched its skull in front of Lin Yun, one of its phosphorus lights almost touching Lin Yun's body.

The skeleton had extremely high offensive abilities, especially those two phosphorus lights emitting cold auras. Even 5th Rank Archmage Solan was powerless before them and ended up getting devoured.

But...

A deep incantation echoed as the Lich waved its bone staff, its phosphorus fires throbbing in its eye sockets as its finished casting, forming a few dozen Bone Spears that had black gas surrounding their tips. As the Lich let out a deep roar, those Bone Spears flew as fast as lightning.

The targets of the Bone Spears were the two phosphorus fires in that skull's eye sockets.

Just as the Bone Spears flew out, the skeleton let out a painful, deafening cry. It was caught off guard as the phosphorus instantly disintegrated after being hit by those Bone Spears. Sparks even sprayed from the eye sockets. They had been thoroughly extinguished and had turned into pitch-black coal.

The Undead Horseman raised his long sword, his Nightmare emitting a thick aura of sulfur as it suddenly sped up towards the skull and collided into it. A loud sound echoed as cracks rapidly spread.

The skeleton's arm froze in midair, before falling to the ground heavily, raising a cloud of dust. The two phosphorus fires had already dimmed, and half of the skull had cracked. Broken bones kept falling down every few seconds as only half of the skull remained.

Dead.

Everyone, including Lin Yun, sighed in relief. This had been a very fierce battle. They had all used a large amount of mana.

The golden crown was also falling to the ground, shrinking in midair before regaining a normal size.

Lin Yun crouched and picked up the crown. He wiped the sweat off his forehead before smiling.

“Roar!”

At this time, an hysterical roar echoed beside his ear. A frown appeared on his face, and it wasn't just him; the others also frowned.

That roar came from underground...

“Desolate Overlord... Oh no... He should be called Baiers, it's his voice!” Delson was startled. He paled and said in a trembling voice, as if he had encountered the most frightening thing in the world, “Ho-how did he enter the magic tower!”

They could sense that the roar hadn't come from the undead world, but rather, from the lowest part of the magic tower!

“This...” Dean's forehead was soaked with sweat, at a loss for words. They finally managed to kill the skeleton and get the crown that would allow them to get to the next floor, but the Desolate Overlord's Incarnation had appeared in the lower floor.

They had seen the power of that Incarnation with their own eyes. A frightening level 38 magic beast was killed with a wave of his hand, so what about them?

#### **Chapter 432: What To Do**

At this moment, everyone stood there, motionless, despair on their faces.

They still had the confidence to fight against a Heaven Rank skeleton that suffered a backlash and dropped to the peak of level 37, but Baiers... That was the soul of a Heaven Rank powerhouse. He could kill them in a short time even without a body, not to mention that Baiers was still possessing the powerful Desolate Overlord's Incarnation.

They were in an impasse...

“Doomed, doomed, we are really doomed...” Weiss sat in the pitch-black floor, not keeping up the appearance of a Representative of the Black Tower. He kept mumbling before bitterly smiling and laughing nastily. He foolishly said, “This is a plot, a plot set up for millennia...”

“What are you hiding?” Lin Yun, who was sitting not far from him, looked at Weiss with a frown. He had always been suspicious as to why Weiss and Solan had come to the Tulan Mountain Range. It wasn't incidental, there was certainly a goal behind it/ “Speak now, maybe it'll be helpful.”

Everyone's gazes instantly fell onto Weiss.

“We were deceived...” Weiss bitterly smiled. He looked at the dusky sky and slowly said, “Ten years ago, I met a descendant of the 3rd Dynasty's royal family in the Dark Azure Plane...”

“Hold on!” Delson suddenly interrupted Weiss. At this point, he had already forgotten Weiss’ status as a Representative of the Black Tower. “Was it a descendant from the Odin Kingdom?”

“No, it wasn’t them. Strictly speaking, that branch in the Odin Kingdom isn’t considered among the descendants of the royal family, because they are the descendants of Baiers. Because of Baiers, they had been expelled by the royal family and were exiled to a land of cold. Ironically, it was because of this that they managed to survive the fall of the 3rd Dynasty...”

Weiss laughed at the thought. “The descendant we met was actually a proper descendant of the royal family. After the fall of the 3rd Dynasty, those people fled to various major planes, and there are traces of them in many of the planes. But a millennium ago, those people completely vanished. In the Dark Azure Plane, they had planned to capture the Dark Azure Dragon to control its power...”

“That is an existence surpassing Heaven Rank...” Lin Yun shook his head. He knew just how frightening that Dragon was. In several millennia, it would kill many powerful existences, with no lack of Heaven Rank powerhouses among them. As for those exiled descendants of the royal family, trying to capture that Dark Azure Dragon was just asking for trouble.

Let alone them, even Emperor Zhantui and Gaugass King Luo Ning might not necessarily be willing to act against that powerful Dragon.

“That’s right...” Weiss nodded approvingly. “The Dark Azure Dragon was slumbering, so they had such thoughts. You should be able to guess the outcome. Over half of those descendants died, and the survivors took the bodies of those people away. But before they could even bury them, the Dark Azure Dragon pursued them. After those people fled, the fallen descendants had no one to bury them. Moreover, it was a very remote location that had been undiscovered for a thousand years, until Solan and I found it.”

“Is this related to Baiers?” Lin Yun was getting interested.

“Yes, it is truly related to Baiers. Even they were deceived by Baiers...” Weiss let out a long sigh. “At first, I wasn’t aware of the status of these people, but after inspecting the remains, I found an image. I managed to deduce the chain of cause and effect through that image, as well as the identity of those descendants. I then buried the skeletons based on the requirements of the image before acquiring a secret concerning Baiers.”

“Baiers transmitted a piece of information to the descendants of the royal family through the Bloodline Curse, and it was roughly instructing them to go to the Tulan Mountain Range, summon the Desolate Overlord, sacrifice a powerhouse there, and enter the hovering palace to receive a part of his inheritance. Then, they would be able to obtain the complete power of Heaven Mage Baiers at the bottom of the magic tower. I was only a 4th Rank Archmage back then and had yet to become a Representative of the Black Tower, so I didn’t dare to rashly enter the Tulan Mountain range. Thus, I crazily looked through all information concerning Emperor Zhantui’s era.”

“So that’s why...” Lin Yun took a deep look at Weiss. “No wonder you are so familiar with that part of history and even recognized Lagulin and Barton.”

Lin Yun then smiled mysteriously. "You did your best to nurture Solan to use him as an offering? But something unfortunate happened and Solan threw you out and turned you into an offering, it's so funny..."

"..."

Weiss' face was red. He had wanted to conceal that part, but he hadn't expected the young mage to see through him. He could only nod, feeling depressed. "You have seen what happened afterwards? This is a plot created by the treacherous Baiers. If I'm not wrong, Solan's strength should have quickly increased in the hovering palace because of the part of the inheritance. He saw Baiers' body and rushed over. He originally thought of obtaining Baiers' power, but he hadn't expected Baiers to trick him like that and devour him alive..."

Lin Yun secretly shook his head. This master and disciple pair was truly strange. They were master and disciple on the surface, but they were secretly scheming against each other. Lin Yun had been wondering if Weiss knew about the Bone Plane and if he had been involved in Locke Merlin's shipwreck, but it seemed that the chance was very small. With Solan's temperament, he wouldn't have told Weiss something so important.

What had been perplexing Lin Yun had been solved. The Bloodline Curse should have been left on Solan when he sacrificed Weiss, and he did get the inheritance from the hovering palace. That was the demonic energy of the Desolate Overlord's Incarnation. It was suppressed by the Bloodline Curse, which was why Solan hadn't transformed into a Demon.

And reaching the 2nd Floor was the only way for him. If they wanted to leave this place, they had to encounter Baiers' body. And after Devouring Solan, Baiers used his Bloodline Curse as a medium to send his soul into his body, causing Regeneration, making him become a human once again.

Baiers' plan had no loopholes... At least, not until Lin Yun appeared and shattered his plan. Lin Yun looked at the skeleton bitterly. The skull had long since been shattered and couldn't be restored. Even if Baiers' soul entered that body, he wouldn't have the chance to be reborn.

'Hold on...'

Lin Yun's expression suddenly changed. If Baiers obtained that Undead Essence while controlling the Incarnation, wouldn't he be able to fuse with it once again?

Thinking of this, Lin Yun unhesitantly rushed towards that pile of bones. After shattering the skull, he saw a huge Undead Essence fall down, but he had forgotten about it due to Baiers' roar.

"Rumble!"

A loud sound echoed as that huge Undead Essence let out fluorescent light and sent countless bone fragments flying as it shook. It then rushed towards that pitch-black crack.

"No!" Lin Yun's expression sank. He formed a huge Mana hand and grabbed the Undead Essence. With a peal of creepy laughter, the Undead Essence became covered in demonic aura and instantly evaporated the Mana Hand before continuing to fly towards the crack.

"Stop it!"

This sudden change roused everyone. They saw the Undead Essence move and immediately used all kinds of spells to try to stop that Undead Essence.

If Baiers really obtained that Undead Essence, he would definitely reach Heaven Rank and they would have no chance to survive.

“We definitely can’t let Baiers obtain it!” Dean let out a powerful roar, Aura spreading around as lightning coursed through his hand. He slashed with his sword, trying to disable or at least stall that Undead Essence.

“We can’t let Baiers get it, even if we destroy it!” Rolf’s expression turned fierce as the Magic Aura within his body surged. His True Spirit Longbow shook as the seven powerful arrows were shot in succession.

They all used their own methods.

But...

That Undead Essence wrapped in demonic energy was extremely powerful. With a simple shake, it stopped the lightning, the arrows, and the spells, before continuing on its way.

They all heard Baiers’ roar, one mixed with all kinds of emotions.

“High Mage Merlin, what do we do?”

Seeing this, everyone began to feel dread. Baiers was too powerful. They had gone all out, but they weren’t able to stop that Undead Essence.

The consequences would be too horrifying to contemplate if that Undead Essence fell in Baiers’ hands.

Lin Yun didn’t say anything, a grave expression on his face. He suddenly raised the golden crown in his hand and gently scratched it, instantly causing spatial fluctuations to appear. He then leapt into the spatial fluctuation and disappeared from the 2nd Floor.

The crown was the only way out of the 2nd Floor.

“Let’s go...”

Seeing the young mage open the way to the lowest floor of the tower, Delson and the others looked at each other, slightly hesitating, before rushing into the passage.

Their surroundings suddenly changed: the bones, pitch-black soil, death energy, black mist... Everything disappeared.

It was replaced by a simple and unadorned hall. Everything was ancient and possessed a long history.

“That... That’s Baiers, he is coming!” Delson shouted. He looked at the entrance in front of him in a daze. Baiers was squeezed between the two doors, looking extremely malevolent and emitting a sinister demonic energy, his eyes looking at them like vipers.

Everyone felt a chill rapidly spreading from their feet to the rest of their body, and they couldn’t help shivering.

## Chapter 433: How Could It Be?

They all felt fearful facing the former Heaven Mage, Baiers, they couldn't suppress this fear coming from the depths of their souls.

They had already experienced Baiers' power in the Line Canyon as he killed those frightening level 37 and 38 magic beasts in mere seconds.

What about them?

"Hold on... He isn't completely in!" Dean was looking at the entrance in shock. There seemed to be a mysterious force twisting at the entrance, tightly restricting the doors. No matter how much Baiers struggled, he couldn't even get half of his body in.

It wasn't only Dean; the others also noticed that anomaly and immediately looked at the entrance in shock. After all, even if Baiers wasn't at the Heaven Rank while in the Desolate Overlord's Incarnation, he was infinitely close to Heaven Rank, so he could easily deal with 9th Rank Archmages.

The mysterious power at the entrance was tightly suppressing Baiers, somehow making him unable to enter. They all wondered who had left that restriction.

The one responsible was definitely a Heaven Rank powerhouse.

"Fortunately, that mysterious power is dealing with Baiers for now... Otherwise, we would..." Rolf's face had turned pale a while ago, and beads of sweat could be seen sliding down his forehead.

But before he could finish his words, a dense aura of death filled every corner of the main hall, startling them all once more.

A huge Undead Essence, emitting fluorescent light and leaving a black misty trail behind, was quickly rushing towards Baiers.

This was the Undead Essence from the 2nd Floor!

"After fusing with that Undead Essence, Baiers will probably regain his power as a Heaven Rank powerhouse! We will all die once he crosses the entrance!" Weiss nervously said as he tightly held the staff in his hand. He looked at Baiers and the Undead Essence, his eyes filling with despair.

Weiss wasn't the only one, either. They had all cooperated to intercept that Undead Essence in the 2nd Floor, only to fail.

Everything would be over the second the Undead Essence reached Baiers' hand.

They thought that they could leave the tower by defeating the skeleton and taking the crown, but they hadn't expected such an outcome.

They ultimately failed to escape.

But shocking mana fluctuations suddenly appeared, silently rising up as a frightening aura spread in all directions, shaking the entire hall.



That power was utterly terrifying...

It seemed to belong to a powerful existence that was growing even stronger. This aura was so frightening that they all felt as if they couldn't breathe. But what truly stunned them was that those mana fluctuations felt very familiar.

Mafa Merlin!

They all looked at Lin Yun when they found out that the mana fluctuations were actually coming from him.

Lin Yun didn't pay attention to their shocked expressions. He held the Book of Death, and formidable death energy emitted from it, letting out a pitch-black luster. The Doom Staff, the Soul Walker, and the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel all hovered around his body. These Magic Tools had all dimmed, because Lin Yun had absorbed their mana.

"Rumble..." The frightening mana fluctuations emitted from his body were quickly intensifying and echoing as they hit the ceiling, letting out thunderous noises. Just these waves of mana fluctuations were enough to turn a High Mage to ashes. Even Delson and Weiss paled in front of this, unable to move.

Only Lin Yun knew what was happening. His strength was sharply increasing because the mana within the three True Spirit Magic Tools was enough to push him into the Archmage realm.

He had no other choice but to do this now.

If Baiers fused with that Undead Essence, he would quickly regain the power of a Heaven Rank powerhouse and be able to enter the hall, killing them all.

Lin Yun could feel that he was at the Archmage realm, but this was only temporary, and it had been at the cost of all the mana of the three True Spirit Magic Tools.

This was the only way he could contend against Baiers.

He wanted to use the real power of the Book of Death...

He hadn't been able to use the true power of the Book of Death ever since he obtained it, because the lowest requirement to use the Book of Death was to be in the Archmage realm, which had been too far from Lin Yun.

During his time in Thousand Sails City and in the Bone Plane, he had only used the Augment of the Book of Death, the Sage Chapter. Just one Augment had been able to help him so much.

All along, he hadn't really been using the power of the Book of Death.

But now, for a lack of a better option, he had to absorb the mana of his three True Spirit Magic Tools to raise himself to the Archmage realm and rouse the Book of Death.

After pouring the mana into the Book of Death, the black book slowly rose up and hovered in front of him before bursting with a dazzling black light and emitting boundless death energy.

At this time, the Undead Essence covered in the thick demonic energy brushed past him and rushed towards Baiers.

But...

He slowly raised his hand and extended it at a strange angle, and with a soft sound, he accurately grabbed the Undead Essence. The demonic energy then burst out with terrifying power, instantly exploding within Lin Yun's body. Even 7th or 8th Rank Archmages would be sent flying by that.

But the Undead Essence in Lin Yun's palm didn't move. Wisps of demonic energy leaked from his palm, and just that leaking power was enough to annihilate Archmages.

Baiers' power was simply too frightening. He was infinitely close to the Heaven Rank and even 9th Rank Archmages would have a very hard time surviving. But the Undead Essence that he was doing his utmost to obtain was intercepted by Lin Yun. This was a bit too outrageous.

"Roar!" Baiers was still stuck in between the doors, but his eyes filled with boundless killing intent as he glowered at the young mage in the hall. The Desolate Overlord's Incarnation was fiercely struggling, but he couldn't break through the mysterious power since he had yet to reach Heaven Rank.

"You are never going to get it..."

Lin Yun looked at Baiers expressionlessly as he held the Undead Essence. He could only admit that Baiers was truly powerful, in a short few seconds, he had spent the mana within one of his Alchemic Mana Whirlpools. It would be dangerous if it continued.

Lin Yun then unhesitantly raised the Undead Essence and slammed it onto the Book of Death. A loud rumble echoed as the remaining demonic energy evaporated when it came into contact with the book. But that Undead Essence didn't completely disappear when this happened.

"Roar! Roooaar!" Baiers' crazy roars could be heard as he desperately tried to break his way inside. In a flash, a heavy sulfurous aura spread through the hall.

But it was too late.

The Lich and Undead Horseman imprints flickered fiercely as Lin Yun poured mana into the Book of Death. They then burst out with shocking momentum as the dazed group could hear the shouts of the Lich and the Undead Horseman. A loud sound echoed as the Undead Essence was pulled into the Book of Death, only leaving a light imprint behind.

The aura of the Undead Essence completely disappeared.

The entire hall fell silent as Baiers froze at the entrance, looking over at them in a daze, while Lin Yun was panting with a pale face.

"Ho-how... How could this be?"

They were all stunned. They could hardly believe what they were seeing, and their faces were filled with complex expressions: astonishment, happiness, shock...

In fact, they were already despairing when the Undead Essence soared past them. They thought that Baiers would successfully reach the Heaven Rank after fusing with the Undead Essence and would rush in to kill everyone.

But instead, that Undead Essence ended up disappearing in the young mage's hands.

After missing the opportunity to fuse with the Undead Essence, Baiers would never be able to come into contact with Extraordinary energy in the future. After all, his current existence was a bit special. He was possessing the Incarnation of the Desolate Overlord. He wasn't like Star Sage Jouyi, who could still naturally attempt to ascend to the Heaven realm.

By losing the Undead Essence, Baiers lost everything. He was indeed powerful, but it still wasn't enough for him to enter the magic tower.

After realizing this, they all relaxed. It seemed that they were safe for the time being.

However, the power displayed by that young 5th Rank High Mage was indeed frightening. Baiers ended up failing in his quest to regain the Undead Essence. If news of Lin Yun's prowess reached Okland, it would scare a large number of people.

'How did he do it?' Weiss couldn't help wiping cold sweat off his forehead. The more he was around this young mage, the more frightened he felt. He could still vividly remember what happened that day in the Line Canyon. He had been extremely reckless at the time and had provoked someone he shouldn't have, he provoked Mafa Merlin!

He was now deeply afraid of the young mage. Before, he had only felt some respect for the young mage. After all, Weiss was a member of the Black Tower. Behind him stood one of the two major forces of the Andlusa Kingdom. No matter how strong Mafa Merlin was, he could only defeat level 36 and 37 undead lifeforms. What about it? He would be unable to withstand a single blow in front of the colossus known as the Black Tower.

#### **Chapter 434: Returning**

He didn't dare to think so now, the power the young mage just displayed was enough to contend against Baiers!

Weiss estimated that in the Black Tower, only Harren could do what the young mage accomplished.

'This Mafa Merlin is too terrifying...'

'And he is only a 5th Rank High Mage, if he reaches the Archmage realm, who in Okland could become his opponent?'

'This is way too scary...'

'And I made a move against this young mage... It looks like I have to find a way to apologize for my mistake, or else, or I'll never be able to sleep if he is the kind of guy that bears grudges.'

"Ah! You are the ones who forced me!"

As they were all shocked, Baiers let out a deafening roar which thunderously boomed in everyone's ears, painfully shaking their eardrums.

"Rumble..." Demonic energy poured out from Baiers' body and covered every corner of the hall. Following that echoing roar, Baiers emitted an extremely frightening aura and the body of the Desolate Overlord Incarnation fiercely expanded.

That sinister demonic face was completely twisted by craziness.

"Ah... He shouldn't be thinking of detonating that Incarnation to destroy the power on the entrance, right?"

Just as Delson said those words, a loud rumble echoed and the power of that Desolate Overlord Incarnation expanded to an extreme before suddenly exploding. At that time, boundless demonic power rushed through everyone.

The impact of the detonation was mostly blocked by the mysterious power at the entrance and only a small part had gone through the entrance. The expressions of everyone, including Lin Yun, suddenly changed before they all used their most powerful defensive methods.

"Rumble!" They didn't have time to react as the building suddenly shook after the demonic energy completely dissipated. Feeling this change, Lin Yun frowned and tightly held the Doom Staff.

When Baiers controlled the explosion, Lin Yun roused the Magic Array to lock onto Baiers' aura. Baiers already separated from the Desolate Overlord Incarnation before the explosion and relied on the momentum of the explosion to forcibly enter the magic tower, but the situation was far from good. Baiers' soul seemed to be slowly fusing with the magic tower.

The soul of a Heaven Rank powerhouse could be said to be as vast as an ocean. It had already sealed the lowest floor of the magic tower and it would be very hard to forcibly pass through it even with the power of a Peak Archmage.

"High Mage Merlin, did you notice..."

Weiss, who was standing beside Lin Yun, had an extremely unsightly expression. Beads of sweat were dripping from his forehead as he said in a hoarse voice, "This place has already been sealed by Baiers' soul, getting out is going to be very hard.."

He wasn't loud, but the others also heard his words and were startled. They were horrified as they looked at their surroundings. They understood the meaning behind Baiers' words, his goal hadn't been to kill them, but to trap them in the magic tower.

This was definitely more painful than killing them.

Despair was visible on everyone's face.

The soul of a Heaven Rank powerhouse was something their group couldn't deal with, thus, they wouldn't be able to leave the tower...

"Rumble!"

At this time, a bright golden sword ray suddenly appeared with a huge momentum, shocking everyone, including Lin Yun. In front of that sword ray, they all felt insignificant, just like specks of dust...

A world-shaking sound echoed as the entire magic tower trembled. Then, a faintly discernible scream could be heard as the sword ray streaked through the seal Baiers' soul had formed on the lowest floor, creating a crack. In a flash, Baiers' soul energy crazily rushed forth, wanting to restore the crack.

But...

No matter how much soul energy he sent, the crack was like a bottomless pit constantly swallowing his soul.

"Quick!"

Lin Yun's voice echoed, leading them out of this life and death situation. After a few seconds, the group escaped the magic tower.

Lin Yun felt his surroundings change. He was now walking on a ground with fragrant flowers and singing birds, the aura of life assaulting his senses. He could also faintly hear the roars of a few magic beasts. But more importantly, he could feel the Laws of Earth, Water, Wind, and Fire, thus concluding that this wasn't a special space but the real Nascent.

After getting a new lease on life, he couldn't help taking a few deep breaths. Lin Yun had originally planned on trying the Ancient God's soul fragments when Baiers had used his soul to seal the magic tower, but that sword ray ended up appearing.

He had come in contact with the traces of Luo Ning and Emperor Zhantui's battle in the hovering palace and the Bloodshed Forest, and had a faint feeling that the sword ray which ended up cutting Baiers' soul had been left behind by His Highness, Emperor Sengman Zhantui. Fortunately, Emperor Zhantui had left something behind, or the consequences would have been too horrible to contemplate...

Lin Yun's group left the magic tower and appeared in the depths of the Line Canyon. After a few hours, they found the rest of the members of the three mercenary groups and their group finally left towards Okland.

Although this trip to the Tulan Mountain Range had been extremely difficult, they ended up having quite a great harvest. Lin Yun had originally planned on going to the Tulan Mountain Range for that six formulas Meditation Law Set, but he ended up not only getting the six formulas Meditation Law Set, he also profited quite a bit. He had gotten the Three-Eyed Secret Wolf, the Elemental Chapter, the Ancient God's soul fragment, a Mana Vine, and a few other minor things.

Naturally, the most important reward was killing those Higher Undeads in the 2nd Floor and discovering the Summoning function of the Book of Death. Now, there were three imprints in the Book of Death, the Undead Horseman and the Lich were the first two, and as for the third one, it was from the Undead Essence he had absorbed not long ago. He tried pouring mana in it, but there was no reaction, thus he left it for now, he would slowly research it later.

On the way back to Okland, he carefully linked everything that had happened back then, but ended up finding many puzzling parts. First, why had Emperor Zhantui and Gaugass King Luo Ning went to the Tulan Mountain Range. He understood that this wasn't for something as simple as a duel, moreover, he

could guess that this so-called duel was only a pretense. From the stone tablet left in the Bloodshed Forest, Emperor Zhantui and Luo Ning seemed to have gone to a certain place.

But where was it?

This puzzled Lin Yun. In the diary he roughly translated in the study room in the 9th Floor of the tower, that place was also mentioned, but due to something happening between Luo Ning and Emperor Zhantui, the exploration had been left unsettled. In the end, Luo Ning had gone to that place on his own.

There were also many questions about Heaven Mage Baiers. The Empire's throne belonged to him, and he was the biological son of Emperor Zhantui, Lin Yun really couldn't understand why Baiers would go to the Tulan Mountain Range to try assassinating Emperor Zhantui. There must have been an ulterior motive behind this.

He would have to take another trip to the Tulan Mountain Range in the future, not only to search for the answer to those questions, but also because there was something he needed there, the passage to the Puppet Plane in the 10th Floor. Although he had recorded the coordinates of the Puppet Plane, he still needed to be in the magic tower to open that Planar Path.

If he found that thing hidden in the Puppet Plane, then the power of his puppet would rise to a frighteningly high level. It would easily be able to deal with level 37 and 38 powerhouses.

Thus, he was eager to take a trip to the Puppet Plane. Although it was very dangerous, not any less dangerous than the Undead Plane, but if he was careful, he shouldn't be in too much danger with his current strength.

Everyone got some substantial benefits after safely leaving the magic tower. Among the three youths of the Merlin Family, Ross battled Stan Watson in the illusion before finally defeating him, not only resolving the matter that had always been gnawing at his mind, but also greatly improving his power. He was already an 8th Rank High Mage and with the complete Elemental Tide it was only a matter of time before he could advance to the Archmage Rank.

After obtaining the complete Arcane Ring, Leon tempered himself in the illusion and finally merged his nine Arcane Rings into one, standing at the peak of the 7th Rank High Mage, even Ross would be weaker to him when fighting against many.

As for William, he ended up gaining the most, the Well of Stars was the most formidable Magic Conducting Rune in Noscent after the Magic Array, once William completed his Lava Heart, he would be able to destroy his original Magic Conducting Runes, and form the Well of Stars instead. Although he was only a 6th Rank High Mage, once he formed the Well of Stars, 9th Rank High Mages might not necessarily be his opponent.

Xiuban only slept in the illusion, but he had already advanced to 9th Rank Expert Swordsman after coming out and after tempering himself against magic beasts in the 8th Floor of the magic tower, he reached the peak of 9th Rank. In half a year, at most, he should be able to smoothly reach the Sword Saint realm.

As for the members of the three mercenary groups, they completed the mission entrusted by those descendants in the Odin Kingdom and took out the crown from the magic tower. They should soon

receive that extremely high reward. But Delson and the others had been deeply worried and unhappy. It wasn't a trivial matter to deal with an opposing country, and being employed by that descendant was no longer a secret. In the 2nd Floor of the magic Tower, Delson shared everything and everyone in the team was aware now.

If this matter came out, even their mercenary groups wouldn't be able to handle.

They weren't very worried about the youths of the Merlin Family, they had already established a deep friendship on the way, it was unlikely that they would leak secrets. The only one they were worried about was Representative Weiss.

But, they were truly overthinking.

Weiss wasn't in the mood to worry about their matters, he was under great pressure. Ever since he experienced that young mage's terrifying power, he had been greatly worried, he was afraid that the young mage would come look for trouble due to what had happened that day in the Line Canyon...

### **Chapter 435: Return**

On the way back to Okland, Weiss had been deliberately avoiding Lin Yun.

In fact, he was quite unlucky. Apart from him, everyone else in the team had gotten some sort of benefit, while he not only didn't obtain any benefits, but he even fell to 5th Rank. But with his comprehension, it shouldn't take long for him to regain his strength.

The only saving grace was that the two Withering Flames plaguing his body had disappeared alongside the Desolate Overlord's Incarnation.

No magic beast could threaten their huge group as they kept moving on unimpeded. They crossed the Aurij Mountain Range fifteen days later.

There were a lot less magic beasts around since they were only about half an hour from Okland.

The events that had transpired over the course of this trip had exhausted everyone.

And Lin Yun was no exception. On the lowest floor of the tower, he had absorbed the mana of his three True Spirit Magic Tools and finally used the power of the Book of Death in order to snatch the Undead Essence. In fact, forcibly raising his power to the Archmage realm did cause him some injuries, and he had been slowly recovering for the past half of a month.

The Book of Death was definitely the strongest card he had at the moment, but it had a price. He wouldn't use it unless he was at a critical juncture.

He was hurrying on his way back while thinking over some things when suddenly, a strange mana fluctuation spread through the surroundings.

He raised his head towards the sky while pouring mana into the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel, his Magic Array roused to its peak. That mana fluctuation felt familiar, and it was also very powerful.

Black mist suddenly filled the sky.

The black mist in the area seemed particularly strange. It was twisting continuously while emitting strange, shocking mana fluctuations, a sinister and bloody aura spreading along with it, startling everyone and leaving them speechless.

“Human Mage, I said that I would make you pay the price...”

The black mist turned into a sinister face hovering over twenty meters in the air. A pair of eyes flickered as a sharp, deafening voice echoed.

That voice seemed to be coming from the depths of Hell, and although it wasn't very loud, it reached everyone's ears. Many mercenaries instantly went pale with fright.

“Who is it?”

Even Weiss, who was at the level of a 5th Rank Archmage, couldn't help holding his breath when he saw that face in the sky. That sinister face caused him to feel extreme pressure. It felt as if he had been enveloped by some malignant power and could be devoured anytime.

This was definitely a formidable existence, and with his insight, he could naturally see that this was was a Devil from Hell!

And it wasn't an ordinary Devil...

After all, Weiss could still handle ordinary Devils even after his power had dropped, but that Devil clearly couldn't be an ordinary one.

‘A Greater Devil...’

Weiss was breathless as he thought of this possibility. A chill quickly spread through his entire body, and he couldn't help shivering. Although he hadn't personally seen one before, Weiss had heard some rumors about a certain Heaven Mage meeting a peak Greater Devil after going to Hell, and it was said that this Heaven Mage had fallen.

Every time a Greater Devil appeared in Noscent, it would cause an unprecedented massacre. The Greater Devils coming from Hell were bloodthirsty and evil, and they would feed on flesh. They were extremely powerful, and peak Archmages might not necessarily be able to defeat one.

And now, their group met one...

Weiss really couldn't understand why a Greater Devil would suddenly appear here. Moreover, it looked like it came looking for a specific individual.

“Human Mage, you thoroughly infuriated me! I won't let you or your family off even if you hand over the gem. Get ready to receive my fury!”

The sinister face let out a deafening roar and a boundless, sinister aura spread, bursting with frightening power. A pitch-black beam of light fell down from the sky.

“You are still the same, trying to deceive others. You should f\*ck off back to sleep now, I'm not very patient...”



Shocking mana fluctuations suddenly spread around them as a red silhouette shrouded in flames charged into that sinister face, flooding it with countless spells. The collision between the two destructive powers uprooted the trees in the surroundings and raised a cloud of dust.

“Despicable, it’s been three months, yet you actually...” A sharp roar echoed as a flustered expression appeared on the floating face. The fiendish power shrank back, gradually dissipating completely.

Following the disappearance of the Greater Devil, Lin Yun slowly descended with Levitation. He let out a long breath. Just now, it had been the Magic Tool Incarnation of the Charlotte Family, Thousand Souls Sacrifice. Three months ago, when Lin Yun got the Star Gem, he had an encounter with Hanson Charlotte, and after killing him, the portion of fiendish power within Hanson came out.

At that time, he used the Truth Chapter and managed to eliminate the Greater Devil’s Incarnation, and the Greater Devil had said that he would come looking for him three months later.

And just as expected, he came.

If Lin Yun hadn’t obtained such benefits in the Tulan Mountain Range and greatly increased his power, Lin Yun would have had a hard time against the Greater Devil’s true body. After all, the Greater Devil was an existence that could contend against a peak Heaven Rank powerhouse. Even though that Greater Devil had been greatly injured, he became the Magic Tool Incarnation of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice and was cultivated in the Charlotte Family for a millennium before being able to regain some power.

After the Greater Devil’s initial display of power, Lin Yun discovered that the power emitted was that of a peak level 37, and thus, he unhesitantly entered Unlimited Mode to start the battle, sharing the limelight with the Greater Devil for a moment. It would have been very difficult to contend against the Greater Devil without it. Lin Yun’s performance ended up shocking the wily Greater Devil and scaring him away...

If Lin Yun exhausted all his cards, even a peak level 37 Greater Devil likely wouldn’t be his opponent. But this greater Devil was too crafty. He immediately withdrew when he felt that something was wrong with his target.

Lin Yun wasn’t certain that he could kill the Greater Devil, but the Greater Devil didn’t pose much of a threat to him.

Under such circumstances, Lin Yun didn’t want to reveal all his cards.

“High Mage Merlin, that...” After the Greater Devil disappeared, Delson’s face regained its rosiness as he looked at Lin Yun. That power had been too terrifying. Had it not been for Lin Yun confronting it, none of them would have been able to face that terrifying Greater Devil.

“It’s nothing, let’s return to Okland first...” Lin Yun shook his head but didn’t plan to explain. The Charlotte Family didn’t want outsiders to learn about the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, but it was the same for Lin Yun. A peak True Spirit Magic Tool like the Thousand Souls Sacrifice... How could Lin Yun not be tempted? It was just that he wasn’t certain if he could suppress the Greater Devil right now.

‘There will always be a chance later...’

“Alright...” Delson tactfully nodded and stopped prying.

...

A black mist carrying a terrifying aura rushed through Okland's sky.

It was the Incarnation of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice that had attacked Lin Yun not long ago.

Although he hadn't been greatly injured during that confrontation, after eating a loss, he clearly understood that with his current strength, killing that young mage would be very difficult. Moreover, during the battle, he sensed a dangerous aura in the young mage's body, making him give up and flee back to Okland.

But he wasn't willing to be defeated...

As the Incarnation of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, as well as a Greater Devil, when had he been provoked like this?

Unfortunately, nothing could be done about it. The puny and insignificant mage from three months ago had become ten times stronger.

Ever since receiving that serious injury and being forced to become the Incarnation of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, he hibernated in the Charlotte Family for close to a millennium, slowly recovering his power. In fact, it was the first time his real body had gone out. He clearly knew that Okland was a very dangerous place, as a few of the powerhouses there could pose a threat to him.

Even if he was determined to kill that young mage, he wouldn't dare to show up in Noscent. He would have to take care of things outside Noscent instead.

Unfortunately, he failed.

But he didn't intend to let that human mage go. He was waiting to regain more power before he could kill him off. He needed time.

"You actually dared to make a move in Okland..."

Suddenly, an extremely imposing voice came from the Cloud Tower's vicinity. The Thousand Souls Sacrifice was scared the moment he heard that voice. He could tell from the power within the voice that the owner was someone who could pose a real threat, one of Okland's peak powerhouses.

It was also the person he was the most scared of.

Astonishing mana fluctuations inundated the area and a golden light flashed, slowly enlarging. It was an extremely powerful Mana Ray. Before the Thousand Souls Sacrifice could react, he was pierced by the Mana Ray and let out a blood-curdling screech. His sinister face suddenly distorted. He was resisting that sharp pain with great difficulty as he rushed towards the Charlotte Family.

That opponent simply wasn't someone he could contend against. He would die there if he didn't escape.

"Hmpf!"

The Thousand Souls Sacrifice suffered a serious injury from the first attack, when a cold snort came from the Black Tower. The power behind that snort almost made him fall to the ground. This time, the aura of

the Thousand Souls Sacrifice had greatly weakened, and after letting out two miserable shrieks, he left a dark afterimage as he fled into the Charlotte Family Manor...

### **Chapter 436: Fifty People**

The large group reached Okland half an hour later. After separating from the three mercenary groups, Lin Yun, his three cousins, and Xiuban looked for a carriage to go to the Merlin Family Manor.

As they were half an hour late, they naturally couldn't know what had just happened. The Thousand Souls Sacrifice had been discovered by the powerhouses of the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower and had suffered heavy losses as it fled back to the Charlotte Family.

Soon after, the few of them returned to the Merlin Family Manor.

After finally getting some rest, the exhausted Xiuban simply didn't care about the others and already started sleeping...

"Oh right, Cousin William, has Faleau's group arrived at Okland?" Lin Yun suddenly recalled this important matter. After discovering the change to his Demiplane in the Aurij Mountain Range, he had told William to contact Faleau in Thousand Sails City. He just didn't know if they had arrived yet.

"Faleau arrived half a month ago, but since we weren't there, he didn't go to the Merlin Manor, stopping somewhere else instead." William promptly nodded. After putting down his cup of water, he took out a piece of paper from his pocket and quickly wrote something using magic runes. He then poured mana into the paper, and it transformed into countless dissipating rays of light. "If nothing unexpected happened, they should rush to the Merlin Family Manor within half an hour."

After a while, Lin Yun, William, Ross, and Leon reached the Merlin Family Manor. Their group was very eye-catching as they entered, drawing everyone's attention. It was obvious for Ross and Leon, as they were the two great geniuses of the Merlin Family and were very famous in Okland. Aube had once stood alongside them, but unfortunately, that Elder Council three months ago had completely ruined his magic path.

If nothing unexpected happened, the next patriarch of the Merlin Family would be chosen between Leon and Ross.

Usually, when the powerful candidates for the patriarch's seat returned to the Manor, many people would come to curry favor. But no one dared to come over this time. In fact, no one dared to stay within a hundred meters.

Seeing this situation, Leon and Ross couldn't help recalling what had happened in the Elder Council three months ago. Their Cousin Mafa had been truly fierce, killing three Elders and crippling one. It had already been three months, yet his prestige hadn't subsided at all in the Merlin Family.

The four youths waited right outside, and soon, ten carriages arrived with the crest of the Gilded Rose. The carriage at the forefront stopped, and a young figure came out. With a glance, he recognized Lin Yun's group and rushed over. "Boss, Cousin..."

A vein twitched on William's forehead. He hadn't expected Faleau's behavior to be that strange after a year, calling him cousin in such a shrill voice.

The members of the Gilded Rose's mercenary group came out of the carriages one after the other. There were a total of fifty people, not one less, all standing straight behind Faleau.

A year ago, they had been the worst batch of mages of the Merlin Family. They should never have had the chance to advance to the Great Mage realm. But their fates changed after being sent to Thousand Sails City by the Merlin Family and meeting with Boss Merlin. They reached the Great Mage realm in less than a year.

The Great Mage realm was something they could only dare to dream of...

But that dream came true after going to Thousand Sails City.

They as mages with the worst potential in the Merlin Family, but they returned there after a month as Great Mages.

This was quite ironic.

They clearly understood that this was all due to the young mage in front of them.

"Faleau, how are those formulas' calculations going?" Before leaving Thousand Sails City, Lin Yun had arranged a few formulas for Faleau. In a flash, half a year had passed.

To be honest, Lin Yun was very pleased with Faleau.

When Faleau first came to the Gilded Rose, Lin Yun had intended to let him supervise the technical work and had planned on making Faleau the Chief Alchemist. But Faleau hadn't let him down. Back then, when the Gilded Rose received a batch of alchemists from the Alchemist Guild and frantically expanded before monopolizing the market of the eastern part of the kingdom, a lot of it had been due to Faleau.

And during the past half a year, Faleau had taken care of everything concerning the Gilded Rose. It kept quickly expanding and bringing in large amount of money every day.

Although Faleau wasn't a genius, he was still qualified as an outstanding alchemist. Lin Yun valued Faleau's diligence and his eagerness to study. Back in Thousand Sails City, Lin Yun would frequently see Faleau staying in the laboratory late into the night to solve a thorny problem. He could even stay up the whole night working on it.

In Lin Yun's eyes, Faleau's future achievements would in no way be inferior to those so-called genius alchemists. He might even leave those geniuses in the dust.

This time, he had Faleau come to Okland with the mercenary group used for commerce. He wanted to increase the power of this mercenary group since their power obviously couldn't keep up with the crazy expansion of the Gilded Rose.

Fifty Great Mages was far from enough for the current Gilded Rose.

"Boss, I haven't finished yet..." Faleau suddenly stiffened when this topic was brought up. He said with embarrassment, "I've only completed ten of the thirteen formulas you have left me..."

“Not bad...”

Lin Yun merely smiled, not saying much. In fact, it wasn't easy to get a “not bad” as praise from him. Faleau's pace actually slightly surprised Lin Yun. The thirteen formulas he had left before leaving were each incrementally harder than the previous one, and even the most simple one involved a large amount of Master Alchemist knowledge. For Faleau to solve ten in half a year showed just how great his progress had been. He already had a foot in the Master Alchemist realm. Perhaps within two months, he would become a genuine Master Alchemist.

He wasn't a genius, but he had greater achievements than most geniuses. Faleau was in his early twenties, but when looking at some of Okland major forces, which of them didn't constantly invest expensive resources to produce Master Alchemists in their twenties and thirties?

Just like the Merlin Family's Aube. Through spending a large amount of wealth, he became a Master Alchemist in his thirties.

As for Faleau, he had relied on his own efforts.

Naturally, this also had something to do with the guidance he received.

Faleau, as one of the first people to come into contact with Lin Yun, naturally understood the character of his boss. He knew how much weight this “Not bad” had. Thus, he smiled, but remained silent.

Even he felt shocked by his results. Before joining the Gilded Rose, he had just been a slightly talented Alchemist in the Black Horn Auction House. But everything changed after he began to follow that young mage.

Before meeting his current boss, becoming a Great Alchemist had been his lifelong pursuit, but his situation now felt like a dream. It wouldn't be long before he could become a true Master Alchemist.

He clearly knew that this was all thanks to the young boss, so he would always remain grateful and do his best to manage the technical work of the Gilded Rose.

Next, Faleau simply reported the recent developments of the Gilded Rose and the problems he had encountered. The Gilded Rose had already been set up, and even if Faleau left for three months, there shouldn't be too much impact. Not to mention that the old butler, Pave, was still over there.

“Hey, did you notice...”

Leon's expression suddenly turned strange. He was looking at the fifty mages with disbelief.

“Notice what?” Ross was thinking about something when he suddenly got interrupted by Leon, so he sounded a bit annoyed and didn't even glance at Leon.

His relationship with Leon had been even worse due to this trip to the Tulan Mountain Range.

A few months ago, Leon shamelessly asked to follow them when they were getting ready to leave for the Tulan Mountain Range. And when he explained the reason, Leon managed to make Ross' face darken a few times. Ross clearly remembered those matters. Naturally, this wouldn't cause their relationship to deteriorate. It had to be known that in the past, Ross was considered the strongest of the three geniuses of the Merlin Family.

But Leon became a lot more powerful after fusing those nine Arcane Rings into one. Ross had the upper hand when they first started exchanging pointers, but on the way to Okland, Ross suddenly found out that he wasn't Leon's match.

This wasn't a big deal...

The most significant part was that Leon just kept provoking and defeating him.

"Check their power..." Had it been any other time, Leon wouldn't have taken the initiative to chat with Ross. The two were powerful candidates for the seat of the next Patriarch. It could be said that within a decade or two, they would have to fight each other. But Leon had clearly forgotten himself at this time.

"Great Mage? So what?" Ross said without care as he glanced at Leon. In his eyes, it was quite normal for their cousin Mafa to have a mercenary group with fifty Great Mages for his Gilded Rose. Leon was making a fuss for nothing.

"This group of mages was sent by our Merlin Family a year ago... They were the group with the worst aptitudes and they had only been 5th Rank Mages..." Leon paled as he looked at the group of Great Mages, stunned and in disbelief.

Leon had access to a wide range of information in the Merlin Family, including the conditions Mafa Merlin had raised when negotiating. He had asked the Merlin Family to send him a group of fifty Mages. Moreover, Leon knew a few of these fifty Mages and he recognized them when they all came out of the carriages.

Not one less, not one more; all fifty of them were Great Mages!

### **Chapter 437: Cannon Fodder**

'Heavens! How did Cousin Mafa do this?'

After all, these mages had extremely poor aptitudes, they were considered trash that would never be able to reach the Great Mage realm and didn't have much use to the Merlin Family, thus, the Merlin Family had accepted that condition.

But in less than a year, their cousin had actually turned these unpolished rocks into jewels, making all of these Mages advance to Great Mages.

Anyone who knew about the trade would be shocked, because this was too outrageous. It would be understandable if Mafa Merlin could make a Mage advance to Great Mage, after all, with the Gilded Rose's financial resources, spending some wealth to make a Mage advance was no issue. But it wasn't just one Mage, there were fifty Mages.

"What did you say..."

Ross had originally been absent-minded and unwilling to chat with Leon. But he was utterly shocked when he heard those words. Although he didn't really put Great Mages in his eyes, but making fifty Mages with poor talent advance in a year...

‘What about High Mages...’

Although this idea was ridiculous, Ross couldn’t help thinking about it. In his eyes, since his mysterious Cousin Mafa made that group of Mages advance in a year, there might be a way to repeat the feat. Even though it would be very scary if he did.

In fact, only William and a few others knew that these fifty Mages only took a few months to advance...

Although Ross had an important position in the Merlin Family, as both an Elder and a candidate for the seat of next Patriarch, he would spend most of his time roaming around the major planes and would rarely stay in the Merlin Family. His relationship with the Merlin Family, excepted Lin Yun, was at its worst. He had faintly heard the matter of these Mages being sent to Thousand Sails City, but he never saw them. Thus, he didn’t think too much when he saw these fifty Great Mages, he had thought that they had been hired by his cousin.

At this time, another carriage with the Merlin Family’s crest stopped outside the manor and a middle-aged man came down from it, emitting a fierce sword aura while increasing the temperature in his surroundings.

This was a tall middle-aged man with an extremely stern aura. He couldn’t help squinting when he caught sight of Lin Yun, hardly concealed the killing intent bursting from his eyes. A cold smile appeared on his face as he slowly walked over.

“Looks like you still know to return, Mafa Merlin...” Thorne Merlin’s fierce gaze quickly swept through the people in the surroundings before finally stopping on Lin Yun’s body, his pupils shrinking as he resisted the urge to attack. With a sneer, he said, “You disappeared for close to three months. Many people thought that you didn’t dare to go to the Raging Flame Plane, after coming back you should obediently wait in the manor, don’t run all over the place and go to the Raging Flame Plane in five days.”

In the Merlin Family, Thorne was naturally the one who hated Lin Yun the most. When he saw Lin Yun after getting down the carriage, Thorne immediately had the thought of killing him. But after thinking of the decision made by the ancestors in the Guardian Tower, he had no choice but to give up. But he couldn’t let Mafa Merlin off.

Even if he couldn’t kill Mafa Merlin, he had to cripple him!

The hatred between him and Lin Yun had reached a stage where reconciliation was completely off the table. Aube was his only son and he had spent a few decades nurturing him, turning him into a 5th Rank High Mage and a Master Alchemist. Aube had become one of the three geniuses of the Merlin Family and his future was boundless, he even had the opportunity to become the Patriarch.

Thorne felt proud whenever someone spoke of how outstanding Aube was, because he was his son!

If not because he spent his resources on nurturing Aube, Thorne wouldn’t have been a mere 5th Rank Sword Saint...

But...

In one day, the decades of nurturing had turned to ashes. That Mafa Merlin ended up piercing Aube’s Mana Whirlpool, thoroughly severing Aube’s magic path and crippling him.

Thorne had been wanting to kill Mafa Merlin three months ago, but Sir Ryan had appeared to stop that fight. The most hateful part was that Mafa Merlin was not only not blamed for crippling Aube, he also received the authority to lead half of the Planar Legion.

This was something he couldn't tolerate.

"Great Mages?" After checking those mages and the carriages, Thorne quickly discovered that these unfamiliar mages seemed to have come from Thousand Sails City's Gilded Rose, then, Thorne's expression suddenly became strange, 'There isn't even a High Mage.'

'This... Isn't this too shabby?'

But after thinking about it carefully, Thorne felt relieved. From the information he had received, the young mage had suddenly emerged after Locke Merlin's shipwreck. It had barely been more than a year. Although the True Spirit Magic Tools he had relied on during their last battle weren't weak and hadn't been mentioned in the information he had gotten, how could a small place like Thousand Sails City compare to Okland? Being able to recruit a few Great Mages was quite good already.

But Great Mages were no different from cannon fodder when it came to Planar Wars...

"Mafa Merlin, I hope you aren't thinking of taking them to the Raging Flame Plane, right?" Thorne's expression was very strange, contempt could be seen in his eyes as he looked at Lin Yun. After saying this, he sneered and shook his head, "You shouldn't have gone to the Raging Flame Plane yet, so you don't know how dangerous that plane is. That place isn't like Thousand Sails City, most of the major forces of Okland are gathered there, fighting over it. If you want to take your own people in, you should bring stronger ones, because these guys don't even have the qualifications to be cannon fodders..."

'That naive guy still thinks of taking a batch of Great Mages to the Raging Flame Plane...'

Some people started looking at Thorne strangely after the latter was done talking. Those fifty Great Mages remained calm, seemingly not hearing Thorne's words. In fact, they didn't really care about being cursed as cannon fodder. After all, they had inferior aptitudes in the Merlin Family and had heard their fair share of unpleasantness. So what if they were considered cannon fodder?

"Err, Sir Thorne, you might have misunderstood..." Leon suddenly paled. He looked at Thorne and coughed twice. He was terrified and his heart was beating crazily, 'Damn, that's unlucky, to actually meet Thorne outside the manor...'

He wasn't terrified because of Thorne Merlin, but rather, because he had just seen his cousin frown....

'F\*ck!'

'This isn't a good sign.'

'Cousin Mafa isn't an easy target, he is someone who even dared to kill Elders. Thorne, you do have the status and power to contend against him, but... Cousin Mafa isn't the same as three months ago, he is a frightening existence that can even scare away Greater Devils!'

'You might be very powerful as a 5th Rank Sword Saint, but do you dare to challenge a Greater Devil?'



Leon intervened this time only for the sake of the Merlin Family, no matter how loathsome Thorne Merlin was, he was still one of the three Sword Saints of the Merlin Family and was quite famous in Okland. If Thorne Merlin completely infuriated Cousin Mafa and was dealt with, it would be a huge loss to the Merlin Family.

In Leon's eyes, Thorne's actions were truly courting death.

He clearly understood that Thorne loathed Mafa because of Aube.

'It's just that... Your son could have provoked anyone, but he chose to provoke Cousin Mafa and stated that he would buy 40% of the Gilded Rose's shares with a mere three million golds, and that if he couldn't make the deal, the Elder Council would forcibly snatch the Gilded Rose. Who can blame Cousin Mafa for crippling him?'

'Look what happened to Aube, you'll only be stepping in Aube's footsteps if you keep provoking Cousin Mafa!'

'This damned father and son duo, they are normally very shrewd, they have been profiting a lot from the Raging Flame Plane... So how come their insight is so bad right now...'

Leon had a pretty good understanding of Lin Yun's strength after following him for three months. Even level 36 and 37 magic beasts couldn't resist..

Thorne's power as a 5th Rank Sword Saint was far from enough.

'You said Cousin Mafa planned on taking that group of Great Mages with him to the Raging Flame Plane? What a joke, does a powerhouse like Cousin Mafa even need to take people with him?'

'Moreover, those Great Mages are clearly not that simple.'

'Cousin Mafa wouldn't transfer the Gilded Rose's mercenary group to Okland for no reason...' Leon had a faint feeling that this group of Great Mages would soon become High Mages. If someone else had told him, he wouldn't have believed them, but that was Mafa Merlin... He only used a year to make those Mages advance to Great Mages, what if he had a way to make them advance again?

"Leon Merlin! Don't you see I'm talking with Mafa Merlin? The younger generation is becoming more and more unruly..." Thorne said as he looked at Leon. To be honest, Thorne didn't have a favorable opinion of Leon.

Before, Leon had been one of the geniuses of the Merlin Family alongside Aube and the two had been competing over the seat of next Patriarch.

When he saw Leon now, he couldn't help recalling his outstanding son. After finishing, he started walking towards the manor. Although he wanted to kill Mafa Merlin, he clearly knew that today was no good, the ancestors should have already noticed what happened here, 'It looks like I can only wait until we are in the Raging Flame Plane...'

"Phew..."

Seeing Thorne's back, Leon finally let out a relieved sigh. His own back was already drenched in cold sweat, 'Thank god that Thorne left quickly, or else he would have turned into a corpse...'

## Chapter 438: Swift Star Mark

Lin Yun soon realized that such a large group of people gathering outside the Merlin Family Manor was indeed inconvenient for the Merlins wishing to enter or exit the manor. Thus, after a few minutes, he led the group in the Merlin Family Manor and went straight for their residence. Although the power of the fifty Great Mages, William, and the others wasn't particularly high, such a grandiose group appearing in the manor would be very imposing. On the way, many people curiously looked over, but they would be scared right away after seeing Lin Yun at the forefront.

After returning to their residence, the room ended up filled with people. Lin Yun then held the Book of Death and chanted an incantation, distorting space in an instant and creating a Planar Path in front of everyone.

The group of Great Mages weren't surprised, they had the experience of the Bone Plane.

The entire Demiplane still seemed to be thriving, trees were casting shadows everywhere, while grass spread all over the land. The air was filled with a fragrant smell as the whole world was full of vitality.

Lin Yun didn't say anything after arriving to the Demiplane, he only smiled.

But that group of Great Mages behind him couldn't remain calm, their gazes became heated. These Great Mages weren't completely ignorant, they could clearly feel that mana circulated twenty times faster here.

Even though they had experienced the Bone Plane and the rich mana created by feeding Black Death Rune with Soul Fires, they still ended shocked and speechless when arriving in the Demiplane.

The surroundings were so rich in mana that it even took liquid form. They had no other choice but to be stunned, this wouldn't happen in all of Noscent.

"This is the place you are going to be meditating for a while..."

Lin Yun stood in front of the Great Mages and looked at the expressions of all the Great Mages before slowly saying, "I presume you all already found out how superior the environment in this place is? I can guarantee that within a year at most, the worst one among you should still be able to advance to 1st Rank High Mage, if you put in a lot of effort, you might even reach 5th Rank..."

He said this based on his calculations, the current Demiplane was still growing, the density of mana was twenty times that of the outside world, and the Mana Vine would finish maturing in several months to half a year, at that time, the steady flow of mana absorbed from the void would speed up the growth of the Demiplane.

In fact, he himself didn't know what kind of appearance the Demiplane would have after a year. But he was certain that this group of Great Mages would reach the High Mage Realm.

At this time, it felt as if a fire was burning in the eyes of the fifty Great Mages. They looked around, but no one questioned Lin Yun's words, not even in their minds.

They were sent to Thousand Sails City by the Merlin Family because of a big problem, their aptitudes were too bad, almost every one of them had no hope of reaching the Great Mage realm. It was only after being in the Bone Plane for a while that they managed to become Great Mages.

This was all due to this young boss.

In fact, they were perfectly content to become Great Mages with their aptitudes, as for the High Mage realm, this was a dream they didn't dare to have.

But now, this young boss gave them the opportunity to become High Mages.

Had it been someone else saying that, they definitely wouldn't have believed it. After all, advancing from Great Mage to High Mage in a year was simply inconceivable. But the one who said that was their young boss, so they had no reason not to believe him.

Moreover, the mana flowing in this place was enough to prove it already. With such a heavenly advantage, they would only need to put in some effort before they could become High Mages.

Soon, this group of excited Great Mages built a camp in a spacious area. There was no need to build a sentry tower since there was no danger in the surroundings, there wasn't any magic beast. Moreover, they didn't need to do anything here beside meditating.

After finding a good place for the Great Mages, Lin Yun didn't leave right away, he instead took a trip around the Demi-plane and went to check on the Mana Vine he had personally planted.

After close to a month, this Mana Vine had already become a dozen meters tall and was exuding frighteningly high vitality.

Not far from the Mana Vine was a small pond in which a shining light flickered. This was the place with the densest mana in the entire Demi-plane.

The Mana Vine was extracting a lot of mana through the ground. If that Mana Vine had been growing normally, it would have taken at least three to five months before it could reach such a height.

The Laws of Fire, Water, Wind, and Earth were a lot more stable than a month ago.

He originally planned on getting a batch of magic beasts in here to raise the vitality of the Demi-plane and get some fighting experience for those Great Mages, to let them familiarize themselves with their power. After all, in the Bone Plane, these mages quickly became Great Mages under the influence of Black Death Rune, but they also had a lot of opportunities for battle, which they wouldn't in the Demi-plane.

However, it seemed hard to control magic beasts in such an environment, unless he kept them Mana Shackled.

Even though he hadn't interacted with that group of mages very often, they were important to Lin Yun. This was a group of subordinates he could completely trust and who might become a huge force in the future.

In Okland, fifty Great Mages might not be much to any force, but what about fifty High Mages?

After all, except the Black Tower and the Cloud Tower, not many forces could have fifty High Mages. Even the Heaven Enlightening Mercenary Group, the strongest among the three famous mercenary groups, couldn't gather fifty High Mages.

As for Lin Yun, he would have a commercial mercenary group consisting of fifty High Mages within a year.

Moreover, these High Mages wouldn't be ordinary High Mages.

Lin Yun specially helped that group of mages and taught them a Meditation Law Set and a Magic Conducting Rune. The Meditation Law Set contained fourteen formulas and was known as the Swift Star Mark, it was a first rate Meditation Law Set even during the peak of the Magic Era.

Actually, Lin Yun had been very anxious when he chose the Meditation Law Set.

He had a dozen such Meditation Law Sets, but he ultimately put his sight onto the Swift Star Mark. Even if that Meditation Law Set wasn't the best of the best, it had its own uniqueness.

The Swift Star Mark's only benefit was that meditations would be very efficient. And those Great Mages were in the Demi-plane, a place where mana was twenty times as concentrated as Noscent. By relying on the meditation efficiency of the Swift Star Mark, that group of Great Mages would only need half the time to get to the High Mage realm.

If Lin Yun could be said to have chosen the Swift Star Mark Meditation Law Set because of its meditation efficiency, then the Magic Conducting Rune he chose was relatively special.

That Magic Conducting Rune was called Blazing Storm and was created at the start of the peak of the Magic Era, it was also one of the top Magic Conducting Runes, and although there was a gap between the Blazing Storm and first-rate Magic Conducting Runes like the Magic Array and the Well of Stars, the Blazing Storm Magic Conducting Rune was still the most suitable for that group of mages.

After all, at the peak of the Magic Era, the Caster Legions controlled by those peak forces would mostly use the Blazing Storm as their Magic Conducting Rune. Alone, this Magic Conducting Rune wouldn't compare to the Arcane Ring, but it was different in a Caster Legion.

Lin Yun was certain that once those fifty mages with the Blazing Storm Magic Conducting Runes reached the High Mage realm, their fighting power would reach new heights. Archmages below 5th Rank wouldn't be able to do anything against them.

...

It was already late at night when he came out from the Demi-plane. But after returning to his room, Lin Yun remembered his Heaven Rank Puppet. In fact, the repairs on the Heaven Rank Puppet were almost finished before he came to Okland. Of course, those repairs referred to having an ordinary puppet shell wrapping the Heaven Puppet.

Let alone him, the people that had the financial abilities and skill to repair a Heaven Rank Puppet could only be counted on one hand in the entire Noscent. A Heaven Puppet's battle system wasn't something he could afford, it required an astronomical amount of Latour Gold Essence.

But Lin Yun had met a damaged Heaven Puppet on the 10th Floor of the magic tower, and he had dismantled all the intact rare parts of that puppet. Just those rare parts should be enough to raise the power of his Heaven Puppet to a frightening level.

He could only use this seemingly stupid method to restore the power of his Heaven Puppet, accumulating a large amount of precious parts, the more precious, the more power it would regain. Ultimately, that Heaven Puppet would be undefeatable below the Heaven Rank. But it would be a bit more complicated to make it reach Heaven Rank. After all, even Saint Alchemists could only shake their heads and sigh in front of a Heaven Puppet.

Lin Yun arranged a few arrays in the room to stop people from disturbing him, because repairing a Heaven Puppet might take a lot of time.

Lin Yun then took out the rare parts he had dismantled and put them on the ground. Just these rare parts were enough to make any Artisan crazy. Lin Yun frowned and picked up the mechanical system before starting to restore the puppet.

Repair work was undoubtedly dull...

It took him until the next morning to assemble and install all those rare parts on the Heaven Puppet. But it was still far from enough, because the Heaven Puppet's body still lacked two parts. And for these two parts, he could only do the next best thing and replace them with ordinary materials for now.

### **Chapter 439: Wailing River**

There might be only 20% of the parts missing, but the impact was huge. Some of the missing parts included some of the core components, and those components were very hard to find in Noscent.

'It looks like I have to take a trip to the Puppet Plane soon...'

After finding that Planar Path during the Tulan Mountain Range trip, Lin Yun had planned to visit the Puppet Plane, but something unexpected happened in the middle and he had no other choice but to give up. But he would go back to the Tulan Mountain Range sooner or later, and through that Planar Path, he would enter the Puppet Plane. That plane was filled with endless puppets, and getting a large amount of rare materials wouldn't be a problem there.

Moreover, that thing was in the Puppet Plane. If he could get it, he would definitely get huge benefits, and although his puppet wouldn't reach Heaven Rank, easily dealing with level 37 and level 38 existences wouldn't be a problem.

The next step was constructing arrays. This work would expend a lot of energy, and various problems would appear midway, such as the carved array conflicting with a spell enchanted on the puppet, or similar issues. These thorny problems would be very troublesome if they couldn't be fixed.

Even Lin Yun, who came from the future and had dismantled countless puppets, also felt like he was under pressure. With ink and a quill in hand, he first made calculations on a draft paper before starting to carve the array.

He attached a lot of importance to this Heaven Puppet, and the carving of the arrays was no exception. They were all extremely profound and could be classified as the work of a top-rate Master Alchemist. Most of the techniques used didn't belong to this era. However, Lin Yun fell far short in terms of technique. Even some Saint Alchemists couldn't reach the requirements. It was because this Heaven puppet came from the greatest alchemist since ancient times, the Dark Sage.

After carving the arrays, he added a few enchantments and finished up everything. After two days of work, Lin Yun's eyes had become bloodshot. He was completely exhausted, but when looking at the puppet in front of him, a smile appeared at the corner of his mouth. After installing the parts, the power of this Heaven Puppet could be considered quite good.

He estimated that the puppet was no weaker than a 5th Rank Sword Saint.

Moreover, this was after using ordinary materials to repair the damaged components. If his trip to the Heaven Plane went smoothly, this Heaven Puppet might become one of the most terrifying assets he possessed.

Lin Yun could no longer resist the urge to activate the array to look at the might of the Heaven Puppet. After all, he had spent a lot of time on this puppet. He fished out a level 35 mana crystal from his pocket, the one he obtained after killing the Wyvern King, and although it was only a level 35 mana crystal, it was enough for now.

He inserted it into the mana source location.

But it was immediately followed by a voice: "The end of the Wailing River..."

Lin Yun suddenly noticed the eye of the Heaven Puppet opening. Although this wasn't the first time, Lin Yun was still startled and anxiously looked at the Heaven Puppet... But after saying those words, the Heaven Puppet remained motionless.

'Could it be another message left behind by the Dark Sage?'

Lin Yun felt strange. The Heaven Puppet had said two sentences when Lin Yun first found it. The first one was, "Is there still someone left alive?" while the second one was "There is no path forward, no future, no hope..."

Back then, Lin Yun had been wondering if it had been a message left by the Dark Sage. Unfortunately, the Heaven Puppet had been damaged too severely.

The information the Dark Sage wanted to transmit had to be very important. Otherwise, he wouldn't use such a method. If Lin Yun could, he would repair the Heaven Puppet to its original state to receive that message.

Unfortunately, it was too difficult.

'The end of the Wailing River...' Lin Yun kept repeating this sentence in his mind. The phrase was definitely holding some important clues, and although he didn't have a lot of information concerning the Wailing River, he knew that it was located in the Raging Flame Plane.

Lin Yun suddenly recalled that Emperor Zhantui had remained in the imperial palace during his last decade and rarely showed his face. Many people thought that the emperor had caught a serious illness.

However, there had been one exception, which had been a year before Emperor Zhantui's death. Sengman Zhantui secretly led guards and a group of Court Mages to the Raging Flame Plane. When he returned a month later, Sengman passed the throne to his 2nd son and passed away not long after.

From the three sentences uttered by the Heaven Puppet, as well as that stone tablet left in the Bloodshed Forest, it looked like those three powerhouses from different eras all shared something in common, it seemed to be related to a terrifying secret which was now pointing towards the Wailing River.

It looked like he had to take a trip to the Raging Flame Plane...

And there seemed to be an opportunity waiting for him...

On the way back from the Tulan Mountain Range, Lin Yun had been pondering on how he could quickly increase his strength. After fusing with the three Meditation Law Sets, Lin Yun became a 5th Rank High Mage. Although the trip to the Tulan Mountain Range quickly increased his rank, it also caused a lot of problems. It was common knowledge that whenever a mage wanted to break through to the Archmage realm, they had to merge their Meditation Law Set with their Magic Conducting Rune.

This might not be a difficult step for others, as normally, fusing a Magic Conducting Rune and a Meditation Law Set together was only a matter of time. But it was a huge problem for Lin Yun.

After all, he had three Core Meditation Law Sets: the Equilibrium Law, the Void Forge and the Elemental Heart. However, he only had the Magic Array as a Magic Conducting Rune.

In other words, he could only fuse one of the Meditation Law Sets with his Magic Conducting Rune. But if that happened, he wouldn't be able to advance to the Archmage realm.

Moreover, he had never heard of someone possessing three Magic Conducting Runes...

After thinking for a long time, he had an idea. The Magic Array was the most powerful Magic Conducting Rune in Noscent's history. It was almost omnipotent and had high capacity, and the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel was crafted using the principle of the Magic Array, making it also have high capacity. Lin Yun's idea was to try fusing a Meditation Law Set with the Spell Wheel. The theory should be fine and it should most likely be a success.

But even if he dealt with second Meditation Law Set, there was still one left.

He had thought of fusing the last Meditation law Set with the Book of Death. After all, it wasn't an ordinary Magic Tool, and a few millennia later, Heaven Mage Bane would fuse his own core Meditation Law Sets with the Book of Death.

But fusing one's Meditation Law Set with the Book of Death was very difficult. The lowest threshold required would make Lin Yun flinch. He estimated that he would need to reach the Heaven Rank like Bane first.

Thus, merging the Meditation Law Set with the Book of Death could only be put at the back of his mind for now.

He soon recalled the diary that Heaven Mage Bane left behind. Inside, Bane had mentioned that his biggest regret in life was not being able to figure out the true secret of the Book of Death. Moreover,

Bane always felt that the Book of Death's complete form was that of one of the two books born with Noscent, the Book of Ten Thousand Spells which recorded all spells.

As for the other book, it was called the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras and recorded all mantras, incantations, curses, maledictions, and so on. It was extremely powerful, not any weaker than the complete Book of Death. Moreover, the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras was just like the Book of Death, in the sense that they both had yet to recover their complete forms. In the current era, the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras was merely a True Spirit Magic Tool.

If he could obtain the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras, then the matter of fusing with his Meditation Law Set would be easily solved.

Lin Yun happened to know some of that book's history. In a few millennia, a powerful person would rise in Noscent. He was called Wayate and came from the Starry Sky College.

Although Wayate was considered the backbone of the Starry Sky College, the first half of his life could only be described as ordinary. It was only when Wayate led the Starry Sky College's Planar Legion in the fight over the Raging Flame Plane that he inadvertently obtained the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras. Wayate's name then slowly spread through Noscent.

After returning to the Starry Sky College, Wayate remained silent for ten years. During those ten years, Wayate had been studying the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras. When he reappeared in public, he had already become the most powerful Archmage in Noscent and defeated one challenger after the other. Even Heaven Mages would look up to him with newfound respect.

It was said that after Wayate controlled the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras, he fought over certain ruins and killed several dozen Archmages alone. This was also the battle that made Wayate famous, and after that battle, his achievements would spread crazily through Noscent...

He became the idol of countless mages for some time.

At that time, the powerful Wayate had already joined the core power of the Starry Sky College and become one of the new higher-ups. With the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras in hand, he led the Planar Legion of the Starry Sky College to conquer large plane after large plane. After developing for a few dozen years, the Starry Sky College gradually became one of Noscent's most formidable forces, almost on the same level as the Ivory Tower.

During that time, the two individuals mentioned the most by mages were the Starry Sky College's Wayate, and the Ivory Tower's Bane.

Most mages clearly understood that the wielders of the two books were bound to have a fight, and Wayate and Bane didn't disappoint them. In their later years, they both reached the peak of the Heaven realm and were the policymakers of their respective forces.

At the time, the two formidable forces simultaneously discovered a secret, and it was said that this excavated secret changed Noscent's power structure. The two powerhouses led the entirety of their forces and collided several times. Just the fallen Heaven Mages amounted to more than ten, not to mention Archmages. They were no different from cannon fodder in that battle, and the number of fallen Archmages reached triple digits.



## Chapter 440: Provocation

Naturally, everyone was looking forward to the battle between Bane and Wayate the most. It was said that this battle was carried out on a certain plane, but both Wayate and Bane ended up going missing after the battle. Some people guessed that the two had been evenly matched and died together, while others said that their battle had been too intense and that they carelessly fell into the Endless Plane.

Countless conjectures emerged until ultimately, the greatly weakened Ivory Tower and Starry Sky College had no other choice but to have a cease-fire and declare that Bane and Wayate were dead.

Even several hundred years after that battle, there would be many mages in Noscent that would bring up that battle. Bane and Wayate had been two peak existences during that era, their influence had been too great.

Unfortunately, the Book of Death and the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras no longer appeared in Noscent after this battle. Many powerhouses rushed to the Endless Plane to look for the two legendary books. However, no one was rewarded, and most of them ended up buried in the Endless Plane.

Lin Yun felt quite regretful when he read that part in the decaying library. Two of the few Extraordinary Magic Tools that appeared in Noscent had actually been lost.

However, he now had an opportunity to get the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras, and he naturally wouldn't pass on it. This book had boundless potential and would become one of the most powerful Extraordinary Magic Tools. Just the fact that it could merge with his Meditation Law Set to allow him to reach the Archmage realm made it something he had to get.

...

He would go to the Raging Flame Plane with Thorne a few days later, and as a commander of the Planar Legion. He had been unwilling to follow the decision of the Ancestral Land a few months ago because he felt that the matters of the Merlin Family and Raging Flame Plane were more dangerous than the Tulan Mountain Range. Not to mention that the plane had countless Raging Flame Beastmen and all the major forces.

But thinking of the Book of Ten Thousand Mantras made him a lot more cheerful. That hint of unwillingness had completely disappeared, and the status of Planar Legion Commander might help him at some point.

After severing the mana supply to the Heaven Puppet, Lin Yun got rid of the arrays he'd set up. After finishing this, he stretched and left the room.

"Cousin Mafa! You finally came out..." But Lin Yun hadn't expected to see Ross anxiously waiting in front of his door just as he left the room. Moreover, Ross became overjoyed when he saw him.

"What is it?"

"Patriarch Ofran is looking for you, it seemed very important. But Cousin, you went inside your room and didn't come out for three days. You must have been very busy, so Patriarch Ofran didn't dare to disturb you... But the Patriarch said that I should bring you to him once you come out."

“What for?”

“I’m not too sure...”

“Alright, take me to Patriarch Ofran...” Lin Yun thoughtfully nodded. After being busy for three days, Lin Yun had planned on resting. But it looked like he wouldn’t get such an opportunity.

Something serious must have happened for Patriarch Ofran to urgently look for him.

‘Does it have something to do with the Raging Flame Plane?’

Lin Yun shook his head and looked at Ross before indifferently asking, “Cousin Ross, has something happened recently?”

“Something incredible did happen...” Ross frowned and took some time to think before answering, “Cousin Mafa, the Charlotte Family conquered the Frost Leaf Plane! This news already spread through Okland yesterday. Everyone is in disbelief, as no one thought that the declining Charlotte Family could actually conquer the Frost Leaf Plane...”

“Conquered the Frost Leaf Plane...”

Even Lin Yun was startled when he heard this news from Ross’ mouth. He knew of the Frost Leaf Plane. Although that plane wasn’t as huge as the Raging Flame Plane, it was quite rich, and all of Okland’s forces had been watching it attentively. If a force could conquer the Frost Leaf Plane and use it as their private plane, then their strength would raise a few times within a few years.

But unrepaid wealth usually co-existed with danger. All the forces who had tried to conquer the Frost Leaf Plane before had to pay a shocking price and still ended up defeated. Even the two major forces of Okland, the Black Tower and the Cloud Tower, were somewhat afraid of the Frost Leaf Plane. Although they had the power to conquer the Frost Leaf Plane, they didn’t want to take any risk. The losses would be too great and it wasn’t worth it.

But the Charlotte Family, who had declined for several hundred years and whose name was already removed from the Three Great Families, actually conquered the Frost Leaf Plane the day before. Everyone was in disbelief.

Although the declining Charlotte Family was one of the major forces in Okland, they weren’t close to the peak forces. They had been suppressed by the Merlin Family and the Watson Family in the past years and were struggling at death’s door. If not for their restraint, the Charlotte Family would have already been annihilated a few times.

But each major force in Okland had slowly forgotten the existence of the Charlotte Family, and Lin Yun was certain that the Charlotte Family could catch up to Merlin Family if they could focus on development for a few dozen years. Even if they couldn’t catch up, they wouldn’t be too far behind. After all, the wealth the Frost Leaf Plane contained could make all of Okland’s forces jealous.

But how did the Charlotte Family do it?

The Frost Leaf Plane wasn’t that easy to conquer. After all, the Frost Leaf Plane’s coordinates had been found several hundred years ago, yet no one had conquered it during that time. This made everyone

suspicious and wonder if the Charlotte Family received the backing of some other major force in Noscent.

‘Could it be... Thousand Souls Sacrifice?’

Lin Yun was suddenly startled as he thought of that possibility. It seemed to be the only logical explanation. After all, this was the early stage of the Planar Colonization Era. All of Noscent’s forces were busy exploring and conquering planes, so how could they have the time to help the Charlotte Family?

The only method that could allow the Charlotte family to conquer the Frost Leaf Plane in such a short time was the Thousand Souls Sacrifice.

Lin Yun definitely wasn’t exaggerating. The Thousand Souls Sacrifice was a true Spirit Magic Tool and its Incarnation was a Greater Devil who had been self-cultivating for about a millennium. Its strength could be ranked among the most powerful powerhouses of Okland. But the Thousand Souls Sacrifice wasn’t a simple Magic Tool. If it helped the Charlotte Family rise, then even if they didn’t reach the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower, they would still stand above the Watson Family and Merlin Family within a couple centuries.

But from what Lin Yun knew, the Thousand Souls Sacrifice was an extremely wicked Magic Tool that was using the Charlotte Family. He remembered reading about the tragedy befalling the Charlotte Family a millennium later. The Thousand Souls Sacrifice devoured almost all members of the Charlotte Family and was the reason for the Charlotte Family’s destruction, so why would it help them?

‘Did something unforeseen happened?’

“Cousin Mafa, I’d guess that Patriarch Ofran looking for you must be related to the Charlotte Family. The Frost Leaf Plane being conquered by the Charlotte Family is extremely unfavorable to our Merlin Family. Moreover, I heard that the Charlotte Family is making some other moves,” Ross said with a sad expression.

“Haha, they are quite courageous...” Lin Yun smiled but didn’t say anything else. He knew that the Frost Leaf Plane was extremely close to one of the private planes owned by the Merlin Family, the Cold Wind Plane. The Charlotte Family conquering the Frost Leaf Plane posed a small threat to the Merlin Family, so the Merlin Family would naturally be worried about this.

After all, the Cold Wind Plane was very important to the Merlin Family. The reason the Merlin Family could send expeditions to every major plane and possess such a huge Planar Legion was inextricably linked to the Cold Wind Plane. If they lost it, it would be a disaster for the Merlin Family...

The actions of the Charlotte Family were a bit too overbearing, putting the Merlin Family on edge. Had it been the previous Charlotte Family, the Merlin Family wouldn’t have been too worried and could have made them cower with their power, but it was very different this time.

After getting the support of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, the Charlotte Family could no longer be considered weak.

Even the Merlin Family at its peak wouldn’t dare to rashly make a move against the Charlotte Family even though they were dissatisfied.

...

They both set foot on the 3rd Floor of the magic tower, moonstones neatly arranged on the ground. They knocked on the door and soon heard an aged voice from within. "Come in."

A short old man was sitting in the study. It was Patriarch Ofran, and worry could be seen on his face. When he saw the two people coming in, his eyes stopped on Lin Yun and he said with a smile, "Take a seat first..."

Ofran felt that Lin Yun was giving out a sort of unapproachable feeling. He absent-mindedly thought that this youth had the shadow of Santon Merlin. They were both outstanding and unconventional.

It was just that no matter how unconventional Santon Merlin was, it wouldn't reach the point where he would cause havoc in the Elder Council.

One thing was certain: This youth would definitely be able to compare to Santon. After all, he was already capable of contending against one of the three Sword Saints of the Merlin Family, Thorne Merlin, despite being in his early twenties. Moreover, that youth was extremely wealthy. He did a careful investigation recently and the current Gilded Rose had long since been enjoying a monopoly over the market in the entire eastern kingdom, and it kept expanding.

The future achievements of such a young mage wouldn't be much lower than Santon Merlin's.

But he was too unconventional...

And the ancestors didn't even blame him for killing some Elders. They instead gave him control over half of the Planar Legion, which was incredible.

"Mafa, you should have heard what happened recently..." Ofran recalled something and couldn't help massaging his temples as he said with a bitter smile.

"Concerning the Charlotte Family conquering the Frost Leaf Plane?" Lin Yun nodded as he took a seat. Ofran indeed looked for him for that matter. Had it been any other force, Lin Yun wouldn't have planned to get involved, however, the Charlotte Family was another matter altogether...