

Magic Era 461

Chapter 461: Old Enmity

But unfortunately...

The nearby Thawing Fire Tribe was also eyeing the Ghost Valley covetously. Although they didn't control the Ghost Valley, they had a formidable army stationed on the side of the valley, so whenever the Black Tower tried to make a move on it, the Thawing Fire Tribe would launch a powerful counterattack. After a few attempts, the higher-ups of the Black Tower had despaired. They realized that they would have to thoroughly exterminate the Thawing Fire Tribe if they wanted to control the Ghost Valley.

But was the Thawing Fire Tribe, one of the thirteen tribes, that easy to exterminate?

This tribe had existed for countless years. It had an enormous foundation, making the higher-ups of the Black Tower have to reconsider. The sacrifice needed to eliminate the Thawing Fire Tribe wasn't worth it.

"Naturally, it is related. The collaboration I'm talking about would be the Merlin Family and the Black Tower joining hands to jointly dispose of the Thawing Fire Tribe. I think there should be no problem for two major forces to eliminate the Thawing Fire Tribe," Lin Yun said, interrupting Weiss' train of thought.

Weiss was startled when he heard that the goal of the proposal was to exterminate the Thawing Fire Tribe.

Weiss looked at Lin Yun in shock. He could hardly imagine that a youth in his early twenties would be so bold. The benefits of eliminating the Thawing Fire Tribe were evident. Even if the young mage didn't explain the allocation after the matter was settled, Weiss could imagine that once the Thawing Fire Tribe was eliminated, the Ghost Valley would be jointly controlled by the Merlin Family and the Black Tower.

From Weiss' point of view as a Representative, there was simply no reason to decline. The alliance of the two major forces would greatly reduce the risks, and more importantly, there would no longer be that troublesome Thawing Fire Tribe to bother them in the future. The Black Tower wouldn't be restrained here, and they would be able to transfer part of their force to support other forts, or seize additional areas.

There were a lot of advantages and little risk.

In fact, the Ghost Valley was enough to make the Black Tower take the chance to cooperate with the Merlin Family. After all, the Ghost Valley was the place with the densest mana in the entire northern part of the Raging Flame Plane. If they successfully controlled the valley, then every batch of young mages dispatched would gain huge benefits. This might not be visible in the short term, but after a few dozen years, or a few hundred years, the Ghost Valley would help the Black Tower cultivate numerous powerhouses.

It was hardly an exaggeration to say that this valley would play a critical role in the fight over the Raging Flame Plane!

And the benefits weren't just limited to this...

As a Representative, Weiss was given top-secret information regarding the Raging Flame Plane, which only a few Representatives were qualified to see.

It was clearly written on top that the Raging Fire Tribe possessed a formidable Magic Tool, and if they truly eliminated the tribe and got hold of that Magic Tool, the Black Tower would end up being the biggest winner.

But, before Weiss could answer, the young mage's voice echoed once again.

"Sir Weiss, I actually have a way to double the mana density of the Ghost Valley. Once we are in control of the valley, our Merlin Family and the Black Tower can send a batch of youths every year. Naturally, this quota needs to be discussed with both sides."

Lin Yun crossed his hands on the table and softly tapped on it while smiling at Weiss. In fact, he truly had a method to increase the mana density of the Ghost Valley. He brought it up because he wanted to have more bargaining chips in the negotiation.

"What..."

Weiss was stunned. He looked at the young mage in disbelief. He didn't dare to believe what the young mage had just said. 'I didn't mishear, right? He said he could double the mana density!'

What kind of claim was this...

He simply couldn't imagine it. If it truly was as that young mage said, then Weiss could affirm that no other place in the entire Raging Flame Plane would be able to compare.

"Is... is what you said true?"

It couldn't be helped that he was skeptical. What Lin Yun had said was truly outrageous. Although he was half believing, Weiss still wanted a confirmation from the young mage. Had others told him that, he simply wouldn't have believed them at all. The Ghost Valley was already rich in mana, so how could it be increased any more?

But the one saying that was a young mage that Weiss himself had witnessed doing the impossible a few times.

"It's true..." Lin Yun gently nodded. He didn't say anything else, seemingly waiting for Weiss' answer.

"Cough, cough. High Mage Merlin, I'm sorry, this matter is too important, I do not have the authority to make the decision myself..." Weiss, both on the surface and inside, couldn't remain calm. The worth of an increase in the mana density of the Ghost Valley was very significant, and as he said, that matter was very important. Although he was a Representative, he would have to consult with someone else about this. "Wait a moment, I'll ask Sir Harren for instructions..."

Weiss knew very well that going to Sir Harren was a mere formality. With Sir Harren's wisdom, he would naturally see that this collaboration was hard to decline. If the Thawing Fire Tribe was eliminated, the Black Tower would not only obtain the Ghost Valley, but there would also be that formidable Magic Tool.

These two benefits were definitely huge for the Black Tower.

“Alright...”

Lin Yun didn't care, he just sat peacefully.

“Weiss, I see no need to disturb Sir Harren!”

But suddenly, a gloomy voice came from outside. This voice was mixed with intense mana fluctuations and it clearly carried deep enmity.

Then, the entrance to the reception room was pushed open.

The newcomer was an old man in his seventies wrapped in a black robe, looking rather gloomy. Although he appeared no different from an ordinary old man, the mana fluctuations raging on that old man's body were extremely frightening, and gold and silver patterns were impressively embroidered on his cuffs.

This was a high-ranked Archmage!

“Ah, why have you come, Suval...” Weiss, who was about to leave, suddenly frowned.

‘What bad luck...’

Weiss knew that Suval's arrival wasn't a good thing.

The status of that old man called Suval was comparable to Weiss' as they were both Representatives of the Council, but Suval had far more experience than him. He was already a famous figure three hundred years ago and was quite outstanding during his youth.

In this era, Suval's name had spread through Andlusa. It was like a mountain pressuring countless geniuses, and he was praised as the best choice for Chairman of the Black Tower. Suval indeed didn't disappoint. In a short dozen years, he broke through to the Archmage realm and went further and further along the path of an Archmage.

Back then, Suval was already a 7th Rank Archmage and had left behind the geniuses of his generation. He smoothly entered the core powers of the Black Tower and became a Representative of the Council of Seven.

Up until Santon Merlin was born. Suval had a battle against Santon Merlin in the Aurij Mountain Range, which ended up with Suval falling from the sky. To be more precise, Suval not only lost, but he was also severely wounded, to the point that his magic path was severed. He was forced to remain at the 7th Rank of the Archmage realm for his lifetime.

This heavy blow was something that Suval couldn't accept, and his temperament greatly changed after that. Later, a powerhouse of the Black Tower's Holy Land appeared and took Suval away. It was said that he wanted to help Suval continue on his magic path. It wasn't until three hundred years later that Suval came out of the Holy Land and returned to the Black Tower, regaining his seat as a Representative.

Thus, when Weiss caught sight of Suval, he knew that the situation was far from good. Even an idiot could guess that the injury Suval received from Santon Merlin made him hate the Merlin Family.

'What should I do...' Weiss was sweating.

Suval calmly walked over, and frightening power was emitted from every part of his body. After he entered, Suval glanced at Lin Yun with disdain and hate, before turning to Weiss. "How could I not come? I know what happened. Weiss, really? How could you be convinced that a 5th Rank High Mage represents the Merlin Family?"

He then continued, "Hmpf, it's no good even if he can represent the Merlin Family."

After saying that, Suval threw a loathsome glance at Lin Yun and coldly snorted, "Your Merlin Family looks huge on the surface, but what do you take the Black Tower as? If you want to collaborate with the Black Tower, then don't send such a young one over, this is too insincere! If you want to discuss collaboration, send Oren Merlin over, or we won't speak..."

Suval had a nasty expression on his face. Even if Oren Merlin personally came, he wouldn't consider collaborating with the Merlin Family. He had accumulated three hundred years of hatred against Santon Merlin, so he unconsciously started hating the entire Merlin Family a long time ago.

His past was so glorious! He had defeated one powerhouse after the other, creating a legend, but Santon Merlin's appearance completely sank his fate, leaving his body crippled. No matter how hard he worked, he couldn't change this outcome, and even the powerhouses of the Holy Land couldn't do anything against this wound.

And this had all been caused by Santon Merlin.

He'd thought about it countless times. He wanted Santon Merlin to die horribly, but not long after he started living in seclusion in the Holy Land, he heard that Santon Merlin became a Heaven Mage, and this news made him despair.

He simply didn't have the ability to retaliate against a Heaven Mage...

Chapter 462: Harren

After recently coming out of the Holy Land, he made some discreet inquiries regarding the Merlin Family and found out that the Merlin Family had no Heaven Rank powerhouses overseeing it at the moment and that their stronger for now was a Peak Archmage named Oren Merlin.

Moreover, that damn Santon Merlin had not returned to the Merlin Family for many years.

He then thought of retaliating against the Merlin Family. Him coming to the Raging Flame Plane wasn't accidental. He wanted to use the power of the Black Tower to snatch the Merlin Family's Flame Demon Fort. Naturally, this was only the first step of his revenge. He would slowly nibble away at the Merlin Family and thoroughly throttle this Great Family.

Just as he was lost in these thoughts, Suval found out that a member of the Merlin Family arrived to the Dark Moon Fort and was thus unable to hold himself back from rushing to the reception room. After arriving there, he heard, from the other side of the door, the young mage raise the matter of the collaboration. He couldn't deny that this collaboration would be extremely beneficial to the Black Tower, but Suval didn't want to see the Black Tower ever work together with the Merlin Family. If it

really reached that step, how would he be able to draw support from the Black Tower to take care of the Merlin Family?

But...

The Merlin Family didn't put the Black Tower in their eyes! They sent a mere 5th Rank High Mage youth over, so they clearly weren't being sincere. Thus, Suval could use this as an excuse to prevent the collaboration. With fierce words, he would completely suppress this messenger.

"I want to know why the Merlin Family sent you. Is the talk of collaboration just a pretense?" Suval kept sneering as he looked at Lin Yun, his wrinkled palm moving back and forth. Sharp mana fluctuations quickly spread from it as he coldly said, "You won't leave the Dark Moon Fort for the time being... Have Oren Merlin come over to take you back."

As he said those words, Suval couldn't see Weiss sweating heavily and looking at him with an alarmed expression.

'Damn...'

Weiss would have cursed if not for the situation being so tense. 'We clearly had a good discussion, Suval. You just arrived at the Dark Moon Fort, yet you insist on joining in and disturbing this discussion. Do you know how much the Black Tower would miss out on if we don't accept this? You are truly selfish!'

Weiss naturally knew that Suval was still brooding over the matters from those past years. 'Even if you want to retaliate against the Merlin Family, you have to choose the right person...'

'If this young mage wants to leave the Dark Moon Fort, then he'll leave. You aren't able to stop him, Suval...'

In the entire Black Tower, perhaps only Weiss knew how terrifying this seemingly peaceful and ordinary young mage was. After all, what happened in the Tulan Mountain Range was like a nightmare to Weiss. He could hardly forget how the young mage killed those two formidable Undead creatures. Even when handling Baiers' body, he used an even more frightening move and summoned the formidable Undead Horseman and the Lich.

And this wasn't all... The performance of the young mage was even more frightening on the lowest floor. Baiers' soul, which had the power of a Peak Archmage, wasn't able to take the Undead Essence from the hands of the young mage.

As for the Great Devil they met on the way back, that frightening existence from the Abyss, it ended up scared away by the young mage.

In Weiss' eyes, if they truly fought, the 7th Rank Archmage Suval didn't even have a 20% chance of winning against the young mage. Let alone the rest of his abilities, just summoning one of those Undead beings would pressure Suval.

Moreover, he disapproved of Suval's way of handling things. Even if he had enmity with the Merlin Family, couldn't he endure at such a critical moment? Was he happy with forcing the Black Tower to not get any benefits?

“Sir Suyass, High Mage Merlin is a most respected guest of our Black Tower. We should be treating him as a guest, not detaining him. Moreover, the collaboration plan raised by the Merlin Family would benefit the Black Tower quite a bit,” Weiss said with a cold expression.

In fact, Weiss had held Suval, who’d just come out of the holy land, in high esteem. But now, his words weren’t polite anymore.

He was a bit angry.

“How come I can’t see how collaboration with the Merlin Family would benefit the Black Tower? Weiss, you must have been deceived by the Merlin Family...”

A gloomy expression appeared on Suval’s face. He almost burst out in anger when he heard Weiss’ words. He thought that he had clearly expressed his stance. He was clearly trying to antagonize the Merlin Family, yet Weiss wasn’t helping and was instead speaking on behalf of them.

This instantly put Suval in a bad mood.

Although they were both Representatives, he was clearly far stronger and far more experienced than Weiss, yet the other side was provoking him.

“Sir Suval, you haven’t learnt the details of the collaboration. How could you so arbitrarily decide that it brings no benefits to the Black Tower?” Weiss had an ashen expression as anger rose up in his heart.

“Weiss, you are really silly. If the Merlin Family truly attached importance to this, how could they dispatch such a young guy to bring up the issue? If they were truly sincere, Oren Merlin would have come himself,” Suval sneered as he retorted.

“You...”

Weiss was so angry that he was speechless, but it was hard for him to explain. Even if he said that Mafa Merlin wasn’t that simple and was even more powerful than Suval, the latter wouldn’t believe him and would merely consider that an insult. This would only escalate the situation, and it would be extremely hard to mediate.

Weiss truly couldn’t understand how such a perfectly good proposal could end up like this.

“Invite him up...”

But suddenly, a gentle and feminine voice echoed in their ears, instantly silencing them. Weiss and Suval paled as they remained motionless.

‘Invite... him up. Sir Harren actually used “Invite” and not “Send” or “Lead”... This is too shocking...’

After all, Sir Harren was the Chairman of the Black Tower, a Peak Archmage powerhouse, an existence that had come into contact with the Extraordinary power, one of the two strongest Archmages of Okland alongside Star Sage Jouyi. The number of people Harren would “Invite” could be counted on two hands.

But...

Those words were clearly referring to the young mage of the Merlin Family. This thoroughly shocked Suval, and he didn't dare to believe his ears. How could Sir Harren politely invite a twenty-year-old 5th Rank High Mage? Sir Harren wouldn't even be polite to 5th Rank Archmages...

But the truth was that Sir Harren did ask them to invite the young mage from the Merlin Family. No matter how Suval didn't want to believe it, he had no choice.

'Damn it...'

"This.." Suval looked at Weiss, wanting to ask what was happening, but he saw that the other side also had a poor expression.

"High Mage Merlin, Sir Harren is inviting you up..." Although Weiss was extremely shocked, Sir Harren declaring his position was clearly good for them. He indicated a spiral staircase on the left. He then threw a strange glance at Suval, as if he was rejoicing in his misfortune.

Nothing could be done about it. Suval had angered him, so he wouldn't miss getting this small bit of payback.

Suval's intervention had made him feel uneasy. After all, the young mage's temper wasn't good and everything might have ended up blown out of proportion.

Fortunately, Harren intervened and declared his position, removing this crisis.

But that young mage was too strange... Not only was he extremely powerful, but even Harren was treating him politely. This was something even he himself had never experienced.

"Alright..."

Lin Yun softly nodded and followed the spiral staircase while Weiss and Suval stared in amazement. He reached the door on the 2nd floor and entered a delicate study. There was only a middle-aged man inside, the Chairman of the Black Tower he had met at the Magic Hand's gathering, Harren.

To be accurate, this was the second time he'd met Harren. The first time was during that gathering, and they'd had some disagreements back then. He had been recommended by the Star Sage to join the Magic Hand, but Harren had tried to think of every possible way to stop him because of his grudges against Jouyi. But in the end, Harren wasn't really targeting Lin Yun.

Afterwards, they had a deal regarding a Meditation Law Set. It looked very pleasant on the surface, but both sides had ulterior motives. Harren thought he had fleeced Lin Yun, while Lin Yun knew that Harren was the one that was fleeced.

Naturally, this would forever remain secret.

At this moment, Harren was peacefully sitting behind his desk, his body emitting indescribable mana. Lin Yun could feel boundless power after entering the room. He was already a 5th Rank High Mage and was very sensitive towards the flow of mana, so he could clearly feel that this power didn't really come from Harren, but was in fact World Power.

This was Extraordinary Power...

Harren, the Chairman of the Black Tower, was just like Star Sage Jouyi. They were existences with one foot in the Heaven Realm and who had touched a wisp of Extraordinary Power. They could burst with heaven-defying power that far surpassed ordinary Archmages. Even a mana fluctuation released unintentionally could make an Archmage powerhouse tremble in fear.

“Sir Harren...” Lin Yun hadn’t expected that next time he met Harren would be in such circumstances.

“Haha, Merlin, we meet again...” Harren, who was leaning on his desk, raised his head and swept a glance at Lin Yun, smiling. Seeing this young mage, Harren couldn’t help thinking of that Meditation Law Set.

Chapter 463: Their Own Ulterior Motives

That transaction had been quite successful.

After all, the remains of the Sun King Ruins had already been excavated when they dismantled the traps. The most precious resources, knowledge, and equipment had already been shipped back to the Black Tower.

The Sun King Ruins were only an empty shell. He obviously made a profit by trading it for a 8-Formula Meditation Law Set.

The Black Tower’s power greatly increased in the half year after obtaining that Meditation Law Set. Harren really wanted to thank the young mage for this, but he felt a bit embarrassed about the matter of the Sun King Ruins...

But this was the request the young mage had raised himself, so Harren couldn’t be blamed for fleecing him.

“I came here today for a matter of great importance. It concerns the mana-filled Ghost Valley. Our Merlin Family wants to collaborate with the Black Tower to jointly exterminate the Thawing Fire Tribe. The ownership of the Ghost Valley would fall into the hands of the Merlin Family and the Black Tower. Moreover, I have a way to double the mana density of the Ghost Valley...” Lin Yun smiled as he explained the proposal. Harren had been upstairs and had definitely heard what happened below, yet he didn’t mention the subject when Lin Yun entered the study. He clearly wanted Lin Yun to be the one bringing up the topic.

Truly an old fox. Like this, Harren would have the upper hand.

“Haha, turns out it was this,” Harren said indifferently before softly nodding, not a trace of emotion on his face. After a few moments, he said, “I don’t see any reason to decline such a partnership that benefits both sides. Haha, I wish us a pleasant collaboration in advance.”

“To a pleasant collaboration...” Lin Yun stretched out his hand with vigilance and shook Harren’s hand. He knew that this confrontation with Harren was far from over... It was just the beginning. He had experienced his acting skills firsthand. Back then, he had obviously already emptied the Sun King Ruins, but still acted as if he was unwilling to let go.

“The Ghost Valley is a good place. It is rich in mana and mages would quickly grow after meditating within. As for the quota after we successfully get hold of the Ghost Valley, our Black Tower will take 70% of the spots, while the remaining 30% will go to your Merlin Family. What do you think of this arrangement, Merlin?” A faint smile appeared on Harren’s face. In his eyes, this was pretty fair. He knew the extent of the forces that the Merlin Family had in the Flame Demon Fort. The Black Tower would definitely do most of the work.

Under such circumstances, Harren felt that these terms weren’t excessive. After all, the Black Tower was one of the two greatest mage forces of the Andlusa Kingdom, it was quite formidable. If someone else requested a collaboration, giving them 20% would be quite good. Offering 30% to the Merlin Family was purely out of respect for the young mage.

After all, he had already gained so much from the previous transaction. Regardless of the reason, it was a bit too much. Thus, Harren couldn’t avoid having a guilty conscience when dealing with the young mage.

After returning from the Magic Hand’s gathering, Harren had some people gather information on the youth, and after going through it, Harren discovered that he wasn’t as simple as he had thought. When they first met, Harren had thought that he was an important youth that the Star Sage was planning to accept as a disciple, so he obstructed the young mage from joining the Magic Hand.

Back then, the young mage could easily defeat a 9th Rank High Mage while he was a 5th Rank Great Mage, and he possessed terrifying computational abilities. And this wasn’t all... That young mage took out three completely new 8-Formula Meditation Law Sets.

As for what he found out about the young mage, it was even more outrageous. A year ago, he was only a 9th Rank Magic Apprentice who had just lost his father in a shipwreck as well as all financial support. He should have had no hope of becoming a mage at that point. But then, one shocking matter after another happened, and the young mage rebuilt the Gilded Rose with his own power. In a short year, this alchemy shop quickly developed and monopolized the alchemy market of the eastern part of the kingdom.

The biggest change was in the level of the young mage’s power. From a Magic Apprentice that was unable to become a Mage, he became a 5th Rank Great Mage in less than a year. This made Harren realize that there definitely was a powerhouse hidden behind the young mage, and that person might be even more powerful than Harren himself or Jouyi. If that was really the case, then he had to be a Heaven Rank powerhouse.

After all, the world of magic relied on inheritances. The most powerful and talented mages couldn’t be self-made geniuses. The more formidable a mage was, the more shocking his background was. This could be seen from Jouyi and himself.

If that young mage was merely an ordinary mage, then Harren wouldn’t have thought so, but there was nothing ordinary about the young mage. He had seen it for himself. Back then, the young mage already had the power to contend against an Archmage!

After not getting an immediate response, Harren added in a plain tone, as if speaking of an insignificant matter, "Well, Merlin, after we exterminate the Thawing Fire Tribe, our Black Tower will also need to take some of the spoils. But what do you think of the 30% quota?"

He tried to say it in a tone that emphasized the last part. Harren had already planned to give up some additional spots, firstly to make up for their last deal, and secondly, to express goodwill to the young mage. After all, there was a Heaven Rank standing behind him, so it was worth making some concessions.

"30% is too little..."

Lin Yun suddenly frowned. He thought for a few minutes before declaring, "I think the Merlin Family should have 70%..."

"This..."

Harren, who had already been prepared to haggle, suddenly felt awkward. 'This young mage's appetite is too huge! He actually wants 70% of the quota... He isn't showing the Black Tower any respect at all...' Had it been anyone else, Harren would have already shown them the door. Trying to profit from the Black Tower was no different from a death wish.

But this was what the young mage had suggested.

"Sir Harren, I know this can make you feel a bit awkward, but there is no problem if you want to take something from the Thawing Fire Tribe. Even if you take ten things, there will be no problem..."

"Merlin, you..." Harren's expression was even more awkward. After a while, he helplessly nodded. "Alright..."

In fact, Harren wasn't as embarrassed as he looked. On the contrary, if not for his respect for Lin Yun's talent, he would have already laughed out loud.

Because the Black Tower had already learnt that there was a very formidable Magic Tool in the Thawing Fire Tribe. If they weren't wrong, that was a Peak True Spirit Magic Tool!

What kind of concept was a True Spirit Magic Tool? That was comparable to a Peak Archmage powerhouse! If news of such a Magic Tool spread, it would trigger a storm in Noscent.

That Peak True Spirit Magic Tool was very important to the Black Tower. If they could really obtain it, the Black Tower's strength would rise to a whole new level.

The Black Tower had always looked for an opportunity to make a move against the Thawing Fire Tribe to snatch that Peak True Spirit Magic Tool. But over the years, most of the power of the Black Tower had been spread across the major planes. It was very difficult for them to transfer enough manpower to deal with the Thawing Fire Tribe, so they ran into a wall.

When Harren heard the discussion in the reception room, he realized that this might be an opportunity. With the support from the Merlin Family, eliminating the Thawing Fire Tribe would be an easy matter. But what he truly cared about was the Peak True Spirit Magic Tool. As for the Ghost Valley, it would just be a side benefit. This was why Harren didn't refuse when Lin Yun asked for 70% on behalf of the Merlin Family.

Harren felt that this offer was really hard to decline, as the young mage was a member of the Merlin Family. Even if he didn't choose to collaborate with the Black Tower, once those guys from the Holy Land finally came out, they would be able to deal with the Thawing Fire Tribe. Moreover, the young mage had a deep background. Behind him was most likely a Heaven Mage. This was the kind of person that could only be enticed and couldn't be offended. A conflict occurred during the gathering of the Magic Hand, so Harren made a concession on the quota to make up for it. He didn't want to see his rival, Jouyi, be the one to obtain the support of that Heaven Rank powerhouse.

"Haha, it's a pleasure doing business with you, Sir Harren..." Harren couldn't have known that Lin Yun was laughing inwardly.

In fact, when Harren asked to get something from the Thawing Fire Tribe, he had tried to make it sound insignificant. But Lin Yun, who already dealt with Harren, knew very well how crafty the other side was. After pondering over it, he managed to guess what the Black Tower wanted from the Thawing Fire Tribe.

He had learnt from the decaying library that over a hundred years in the future, the Black Tower would dispatch a very large force against the Thawing Fire Tribe. Although that war ended up in their victory, the Black Tower's losses were disastrous. At least 7 Archmages and close to a hundred High Mages fell. But not only was the Black Tower not dispirited by this loss, they even celebrated, because they obtained a Peak True Spirit Magic Tool from the Thawing Fire Tribe.

It was a Magic Tool that genuinely reached the peak of the True Spirit realm, and their losses simply couldn't compare to such an item's value. The Black Tower was immeasurably satisfied with themselves for a while.

But when they got an understanding of that Magic Tool, the Black Tower no longer felt pleased. That Magic Tool had been left by the first ancestor of the Thawing Fire Tribe. It was the tribe totem, and although it was a genuine Peak True Spirit Magic Tool, it had no use in the hands of the Black Tower.

Chapter 464: Reaching an Agreement

The condition to use that Magic Tool was to be recognized by the Thawing Fire tribe's ancestors. Otherwise, that item would be nothing more than trash. It was easy to imagine how depressed the Black Tower was after finding out the truth.

This was another laughing matter after the Sun King Ruins.

But this didn't end here. A few millennia later, that Magic Tool ultimately ended up in the hands of a Beastman from Noscent.

This Beastman was called Luser, and he was extremely normal Beastman, but his fate changed when he obtained that Magic Tool. He was destined not to be ordinary anymore.

To be more precise, this Totem Magic Tool left behind by the ancestor of the Thawing Fire Tribe finally nurtured a Heaven Shaman.

He would end up becoming the famous Heaven Shaman Luser.

Luser's rise was quite terrifying.

He obtained that totem at the age of twenty when there was nothing remarkable about him. But at thirty, he was already comparable to an Archmage, and he stood at the peak of the Archmage realm at forty. At the time, Lusar's tribe was faced with a crisis.

Lusar and a few Peak Archmages fought. This battle between powerhouses who had all touched a wisp of Extraordinary Power shocked all of Noscent. Lusar, who had just become a Peak Archmage, displayed the frightening power of the Totem Magic Tool and defeated those other Peak Archmages in one move.

Then, Lusar brazenly advanced to the Heaven Rank and led his tribe to campaign on every major plane, defeating one Heaven Rank powerhouse after the other. And the Black Tower could only be envious.

Naturally, Lin Yun wouldn't let Harren know. He forced himself to hold back a smile. He was actually looking forward to Harren's expression once they found the totem after the Thawing Fire Tribe was extinguished. Thinking of this, he couldn't help feeling sympathetic towards Harren.

Even if he knew what would happen, he didn't dare to open his mouth. They would get 70% while the Black Tower would get the remaining 30%. In fact, he got quite a good bargain. He had been prepared to get the Merlin Family 50%. After all, the Black Tower would be putting in most of the effort.

He hadn't expected such an outcome.

"Merlin, for the details of the collaboration, you and Weiss can take your time to discuss it. He is fully authorized to represent the Black Tower." Harren frowned, an annoyed look on his face. However, he was inwardly laughing. He felt that this young mage was getting more and more pleasing to the eye. The first time, he traded the empty Sun King Ruins for an 8-Formula Meditation Law Set, and this time, it looked like the Black Tower was suffering a loss, but the Ghost Valley couldn't compare to a Peak True Spirit Magic Tool.

"Alright, Sir Harren, I'll go back and make the preparations..." Lin Yun got up and once again shook hands with Harren. He then pushed the door open and noticed Weiss waiting behind the door. He greeted him and walked down the stairs. But when he reached the reception room, he noticed a familiar figure.

"Mafa Merlin, what are you doing here!"

That figure was the conspicuously oversized Wollings. He initially was smiling, but once he saw that familiar face, his expression instantly darkened. He suddenly roared with boundless anger.

What happened two days earlier could be considered the worst humiliation he'd ever suffered in his life. He didn't feel ashamed even when he was fawning over Ofran due to the Charlotte Family being in decline. But that Mafa Merlin was only a youth of the Merlin Family, and when he was negotiating with Ofran two days ago, he kicked him out.

Back then, he had been unable to say anything and could only let himself be kicked out...

Remembering this made Wollings' face turn red... He felt so ashamed!

When he returned to the Charlotte Family, he went to see the Thousand Souls Sacrifice and recounted everything that had happened. He had felt nervous all along, but he hadn't expected that the Thousand Souls Sacrifice wouldn't blame Wollings and would instead give him even more support.

Wollings, as the Patriarch of the Charlotte Family, naturally took the big picture into consideration and thought of the interests of the Charlotte Family. Although he very much wanted to kill the young mage, he still had to oversee the matter of the Frost Leaf Plane and greatly increase the power of the Charlotte Family.

In fact, the Charlotte Family also occupied a fort in the Raging Flame Plane, but it was on a much smaller scale. After all, before they obtained the support of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, the Charlotte Family was still in decline, and with their financial resources, controlling a fort was already quite good.

After obtaining the support of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, the Charlotte Family aimed even higher, placing their sights on the Raging Flame Plane. They intended to join the contest over the plane. Wollings first thought of the Merlin Family's Flame Demon Fort, one of the Seven Great Forts. If they could obtain it, it would not only increase the strength of the Charlotte Family, but it would also weaken the Merlin Family. This was undoubtedly the best choice for the Charlotte Family.

Thus, a day ago, Wollings summoned a Planar Legion and rushed to the Raging Flame Plane. He heard that the Black Tower's Harren was in the Dark Moon Fort, and thus rushed over. In his eyes, the Black Tower, as one of the top two mage forces of the kingdom, couldn't be uninterested in the Flame Demon Fort. If they could cooperate to jointly attack the Flame Demon Fort, the outcome would be easy to guess.

With these thoughts in mind, Wollings reached the Dark Moon Fort and asked for an audience with Harren.

But he hadn't expected to meet that damned young mage just as he entered the reception room.

"You... You are Sir Suval?"

After roaring, Wollings noticed an old man standing on the side of the reception room. After a few careful glances, he recalled this person. There was some news concerning Suval three hundred years ago. He was a member of the Council of Seven of the Black Tower and had exalted status within it. Even with the Charlotte Family gaining the full support of the Thousand Souls Sacrifice and showing signs of rise, he still couldn't be rude to this old Representative.

Recalling how he lost control a moment ago, Wollings felt somewhat apprehensive. He originally came in good faith to collaborate with the Black Tower to deal with the Merlin Family. Even before departing, Wollings kept repeating to himself that he had to remain low key in the Dark Moon Fort. But once he saw that young Merlin, Wollings couldn't hold back his anger. This kind of action was undoubtedly a provocation to the Black Tower.

'Oh, right...'

But then, Wollings' frown relaxed. He recalled that the Sir Suval had been a young talent three hundred years ago, joining the core of the Black Tower as a middle-aged man and occupying a seat as Representative, up until his magic path was severed by the appearance of Santon Merlin. Sir Suval then vanished from public view for a few hundred years before re-surfacing recently.

Wollings was all smiles as he remembered this matter. 'Sir Suval must definitely hate the Merlin Family.'

It seemed that with him here, the collaboration between the Charlotte Family and the Black Tower to jointly seize the Flame Demon Fort was already in the bag.

But, he still had to teach a lesson to that young Merlin.

“I am,” Suval answered gloomily.

Sir Harren showing his stance earlier was a terrible thing for him. If the Black Tower truly collaborated with the Merlin Family, then no matter how much he hated them, he would be unable to draw support from the Black Tower to attack the Merlin Family.

Suval’s heart was unwilling.

While he was feeling depressed, someone entered the reception room and roared in a loud voice. This almost made Suval flip out. ‘Does that reckless guy not know that this is the domain of the Black Tower?’

Suval was glaring at Wollings because of this.

“Hello, Sir Suval, I am the patriarch of the Charlotte Family, Wollings Charlotte...” Wollings smiled as he introduced himself. He then turned and pointed at the young mage who just came down the stairs. “Sir Suval, do you know this person? He is a member of the Merlin Family...”

Although he only said a few simple words, the amount of information contained within was huge. First, his identity as someone of the Charlotte Family showed that he had a huge grudge against the Merlin Family. Second, pointing out Lin Yun’s identity was to put emphasis on the fact that he was a Merlin.

“Oh, really?”

Sure enough, Suval’s gloomy face blossomed with a smile as he looked at Wollings. Although he had recently come out from the Holy Land, Suval knew that the current Charlotte Family showed signs of reemerging. They seized the Frost Leaf Plane a few days ago, showing outstanding power. Moreover, just like himself, the Charlotte Family ended up in such miserable state because of the Merlin Family. Their hatred towards the Merlin Family was no lower than his own.

Sir Harren’s previous statement seemed to indicate that he planned to collaborate with the Merlin Family, which wasn’t good for Suval. It meant that there was no chance to make a move against the Flame Demon Fort.

But the appearance of Patriarch Wollings made Suval’s eyes shine. Perhaps with the help of the Charlotte Family, he would be able to deal with the young Merlin. It would be even better if he was killed. The death of the young Merlin in the Dark Moon Fort would inevitably infuriate the Merlin Family, and they might cancel their deal with the Black Tower.

Chapter 465: Get Lost

That angry roar Wollings let out after entering the reception room gave away his deep enmity with the young mage.

“Sir Suval, he is truly a member of the Merlin Family, I suspect that he came to the Dark Moon Fort to plot something bad...” As Wollings said that, fierce mana fluctuations were emitted from his body, a cold smile visible on his face. This kind of statement couldn’t even fool an idiot, but he knew that Sir Suval had a deep enmity towards the Merlin Family himself.

“Is there such a thing?” A surprised expression appeared on Sir Suval’s face.

“It is possible, it would be better to have him arrested and properly interrogated, I can do it for you...”

“Then I shall trouble Patriarch Wollings...”

“It is no problem...”

Wollings sneered, his sinister eyes instantly turning towards Lin Yun, revealing an unconcealable killing intent. Through these few sentences, Wollings and Suval came to a mutual understanding. The two had enmity towards the Merlin Family, and as soon as the conversation was over, Wollings’ hands already stretched out, without any warning.

Following Wollings’s action, the entire reception room was filled with stifling mana fluctuations. The current Wolling was a lot more domineering compared to two days ago, even Suval, standing on the side, was a bit apprehensive. Through the mana fluctuations released by Wollings, he determined that Wollings’ power was around that of a peak 6th Rank Archmage, he was only a bit weaker than him, it should take him an instant to kill a 5th Rank High Mage.

But he felt that Wollings’ power was a bit strange.

However, he didn’t think too much about it, all would be good as long as Wollings could kill the young mage.

“Haha, Mafa Merlin, let’s see who will save you this time...”

Wollings sneered as a mana-condensed palm made a grabbing motion towards Lin Yun. This palm had a terrifying momentum and was emitting a faint yet thick aura of sulfur. Let alone a young 5th Rank High Mage, even a 5th Rank Archmage wouldn’t be able to do anything.

Wollings clearly didn’t know that Lin Yun wasn’t an ordinary 5th Rank High Mage...

Just as this magic palm fell, a bone-chilling cold aura quickly spread through every corner of the room and a blue light flashed as a thick layer of ice condensed in mid air. It was followed by a rumble as cracking sounds could be heard in all directions. Four Ice Walls appeared in four different directions, cracked all over. Wollings watched this scene in disbelief as his Mana Hand dissipated.

‘Is this really a 5th Rank High Mage?’

He was startled speechless. Just now, the palm condensed from mana contained an extremely frightening power, even 5th Rank Archmages would have to be cautious when facing it. After all, Wollings was a genuine peak 6th Rank Archmage right now.

But now, the young mage completely blocked his Mana Hand with Ice Walls... Wollings couldn’t believe this. But he no longer had time to fantasize, because he suddenly heard a tearing sound, as well as approaching cold aura.

The sneer on Wollings' face had already frozen, replaced by an unprecedented aura of graveness. The young mage's casting speed was simply astonishing. In an instant, over ten Frost Lances flew over like a rainstorm.

At this moment, Wollings didn't seem hurried, he was instead very calm. He was very confident in his body's formidable power. A thick layer of ice quickly spread through his body as he immediately used Ice Elemental Incarnation. Loud sounds then echoed as the dozen of Frost Lances fiercely hit Wollings, throwing fragments of ice in the air.

When the final Frost Lance passed through, Wollings, who flew back for a few meters, finally stabilized himself.

Under that layer of ice, Wollings' pale face was somewhat scary, the corners of his mouth rose up as he started smiling.

This was a bloodthirsty smile.

"Rumble..."

Wollings in his Elemental Incarnation form suddenly moved. His God-like body was extremely vigorous and a white shadow flashed before ruthlessly hitting Lin Yun.

"Heavens..."

Representative Weiss had just come out from Harren's study and emerged from the flight of stairs. Looking at the chaos and the two fiercely fighting silhouettes, Weiss cleared his throat and shouted.

He was truly mad this time.

"Wollings, you are quite bold! You actually dare to make a move in the Dark Moon Fort, you are provoking the Black Tower..." Weiss' expression was gloomy as he angrily looked at Wollings, "Wollings, you aren't putting the Black Tower in your eyes. If you don't stay your hand, I can guarantee that you and your Charlotte Family will soon face the wrath of the Black Tower."

Although Weiss spent most of his time in the Dark Azure Plane, he had met this patriarch a few times. He couldn't believe that this guy actually dared to make a move in the Black Tower's domain, this was courting death.

"Weiss, I advise you to look away..." Suval coldly said.

"Suval, what the hell is going on here, how could you be watching as people from other forces are making moves within the Black Tower's domain!" Weiss glanced over and noticed the joyful expression on Suval's face, making him shake from anger even more. He didn't need to think much to figure out what had happened.

This was definitely because of Suval's indulgence that such events took place. Otherwise, with a 7th Rank Archmage like Suval in the reception room, how could Wollings and Mafa Merlin have a chance to fight?

Weiss didn't know what had happened, but he no longer had any respect towards Suval, there was only anger.

'Damn it, Suval is really insane...'

Earlier, in the 2nd floor's study, what Sir Harren told him had thoroughly shocked Weiss. Sir Harren repeatedly warned him to not provoke this young mage named Mafa Merlin as he surmised that behind the young mage was most likely a powerhouse that could threaten him.

A powerhouse that could threaten Harren, wouldn't that be a Heaven Rank powerhouse?

Weiss had no doubt about this...

Moreover, the Black Tower was on the verge of having a profitable collaboration with the Merlin Family by jointly attacking the Thawing Fire Tribe. Weiss naturally knew how important this collaboration was to the Black Tower. It represented a Peak True Spirit Magic Tool that could make the Black Tower's strength advance by leaps and bounds.

At this time, although Weiss was somewhat tense, there was a hint of sympathy as he looked at Suval. If Mafa Merlin ate a loss in this fight and it influenced the cooperation between both sides, even if Suval was one of the higher-ups of the Black Tower with high seniority, he wouldn't be able to shoulder the blame.

It could be seen from the importance Sir Harren attached to this collaboration, he simply wouldn't allow anything unexpected to happen.

'I was gone for a short moment, yet you found a way to make a move on the young mage.'

At this time, Weiss was inwardly sneering.

"It's just having Patriarch Wollings help me teach a lesson to this insensible youth, that's all..." Suval said in a deep tone while impatiently shooting a glance at Weiss.

"Haha..."

Weiss rolled his eyes but didn't say anything else. In his eyes, the young mage's power could only be described as unfathomably deep. Although that Charlotte Patriarch wasn't weak, he was far from being powerful enough to teach a lesson to that young mage.

Weiss' heart had already thoroughly calmed down, in fact he wasn't particularly worried, his raging expression had faded away to change to a pleased expression as he watched the young mage fight Wollings.

Weiss shook his head, 'Truly reckless.'

He then shot a glance at Suval and sighed, 'No wonder he was defeated so tragically by Santon Merlin back then, he truly has a poor judgement, how could Mafa Merlin be an ordinary youth?'

"Rumble..."

At this time, a terrifying power spread through the reception room. It felt as if the surroundings were suddenly silenced as a boundless pressure made everyone tremble with fear. The mana fluctuations even made space distort, separating Lin Yun and Wollings.

"Get lost!"

At the same time, a loud voice reverberated with an indescribably frightening power.

“Heavens...” Wollings suddenly shivered, unable to breathe as drops of cold sweat dripped down his forehead. He had been muddle-headed earlier and recklessly attacked Lin Yun. But once that frightening power fell down and stopped the battle, he suddenly realized that Sir Harren was also here.

This discovery suddenly made him shiver, it also greatly cleared up his mind. Although he had obtained Sir Suval’s tacit agreement and made a move on the young mage, it didn’t change the fact that he made a move within the Black Tower’s territory, this was a provocation towards the Black Tower.

He was regretting.

After all, he came to the Dark Moon Fort this time in order to visit Sir Harren and suggest a collaboration. If everything went smoothly, he would be able to join up with the Black Tower to take the Merlin Family’s Flame Demon Fort by storm.

This was the most important thing...

But now that he thought about it, to handle this young Merlin, he even openly attacked inside the Dark Moon Fort, his behavior was indeed stupid.

If his actions angered Harren, then there would be no talk of a cooperation.

“Mafa Merlin, didn’t you hear? Sir Harren told you to get lost...” After his heart calmed down, Wollings looked at the young mage and coldly smiled.

It was clear to him that the sentence “Get lost” was targeted to the young mage. After all, Wollings was the Patriarch of the Charlotte Family, even if he had to curry favor with Harren, Harren would show him a minimum of respect.

What about the young mage?

Even if he was a bit strong, that was all. The young mage also fought back within the Dark Moon Fort, this was courting death. He got off easy with Sir Harren only telling him to get lost.

“Cough, cough...”

Chapter 466: I Was Wrong

Weiss, who stood on the side, was red-faced. He seemed to have swallowed the wrong way after hearing Wollings’ words. After coughing, he smiled and said, “Patriarch Wollings, you seem to have misunderstood... The one that should get lost is you...”

‘This Wollings is truly reckless...’

‘How could Sir Harren tell Mafa Merlin to get lost, he would do his best to entice him. After all, this cooperation is extremely important to the Black Tower. It would greatly influence the future structure of Okland, how could your Charlotte Family even compare?’

'Could it be that he really thought that he could get some special treatment from the Black Tower by controlling a Frost Leaf Plane?'

'Ridiculous...'

Indeed, Weiss was looking at Wollings as if he was a clown.

"I..."

In a flash, Wollings suddenly paled. He was terrified by Weiss and felt like a chicken whose neck was tightly held, he couldn't say a word.

"Sir Weiss, please tell Sir Harren on my behalf that I wish us a pleasant collaboration..."

Lin Yun only said this sentence before leaving the reception room, not even bothering to throw a glance at Wollings. In fact, he already planned on killing Wollings just now. Although that guy was nothing more than a clown used by the Thousand Souls Sacrifice, it was annoying to have him always jumping in front of him.

But Harren timely stopped that battle.

'Old fox...' Lin Yun inwardly cursed.

He could naturally see that Harren intervening at such a critical time was because he didn't want to get the Black Tower involved in the issues between the Charlotte Family and the Merlin Family. If Wollings inexplicably died in the Black Tower's Dark Moon Fort and the news reached Okland, then others would think that the Black Tower and Wollings' death were closely related.

'Harren is quite cunning...'

'Whether it is our first transaction or this collaboration, he tried to scam me both times. But Harren might never know that he had been the one scammed.'

After having finished the discussion over this collaboration, Lin Yun didn't remain in the Dark Moon Fort for long and directly returned to the Flame Demon Fort.

But he didn't know that the events in the reception room were far from over. After Lin Yun and Wollings left the reception room, the reception room felt quite empty. Only Weiss and Suval remained.

Weiss had a smile on his face. Although he didn't say anything, it still made Suval feel awkward.

"That..."

Suval looked at Weiss with doubt and incomprehension. He really couldn't understand why Sir Harren would tell Wollings to get lost, and not Mafa Merlin.

'After all, that Mafa Merlin is nothing more than a youth from the Merlin Family while Wollings is the Patriarch of the Charlotte Family. The Charlotte Family isn't a weak force in Okland, it even displayed some power recently when they suddenly seized the Frost Leaf Plane, they seem to be rising up.'

'Under such circumstances, wouldn't drawing Wollings in bring more benefits to the Black Tower...?'

'But Sir Harren didn't do so, he instead told the Patriarch of the Charlotte Family to get lost, putting the relationship between our Black Tower and the Charlotte Family in a deadlock, and there might not be any room for discussion in the future. Although our formidable Black Tower simply doesn't care about a little Charlotte Family, Sir Harren's decision doesn't conform to our Black Tower's "benefits above everything else" style...'

'Moreover...'

'That young mage said something before leaving, "I wish us a pleasant collaboration?"'

That sentence was enough to let Suval infer a lot of things and he couldn't help being shocked. As one of the two major mage forces of the Kingdom, the Black Tower decided to collaborate with the Merlin Family, and the unimaginable part was that the one who came to raise up the issue of collaboration was only a twenty years old young mage.

This was definitely a bad news to Suval, it meant that he could no longer deal with the Merlin Family.

He wanted to figure out what was happening, but seeing the smiling Weiss, he felt as if he had eaten a fly and remained silent.

He understood that after this event, he and Weiss would be estranged.

"Suval, come over..."

As Suval was worrying, Harren's voice echoed in his mind, making him apprehensive. He followed the staircase up and reached the door to Harren's study. He knocked on the door, and after getting an answer from Harren, he cautiously pushed the door open and said with a respectful expression, "Sir Harren, you called me?"

"Hmm.."

Harren was flipping a black-threaded book and only raised his eyes at Suval's arrival, shooting him a quick glance before focusing back on his book.

Harren's attitude worried Suval, he was already pale and sweaty. This 7th Rank Archmage with high status simply didn't dare to utter a word in front of Harren.

Harren had been the Chairman of the Black Tower for a few centuries. To be more accurate, Harren took over when the Black Tower suffered from a disaster, it was when the formidable Gaugass Battlemages separated from the Black Tower. When this information spread, almost everyone thought that the mighty Black Tower would inevitably decline.

But after Harren took over, he stabilized the Black Tower through a series of thunderous moves. After a few dozen years under Harren's lead, the Black Tower once again reached the peak of the Andlusa Kingdom. Harren's status was supreme to everyone in the Black Tower, even to a powerful existence like Suval. He was a Representative and had a lot of experience, but he still wasn't confident in front of Harren.

Seconds flew by and soon, ten minutes had already passed. During that time, Harren kept reading his book, not saying anything, not even looking at him. This made Suval secretly worry as sweat kept flowing down his back, drenching his robe. Any hope he harbored had thoroughly disappeared.

He had lived for a few hundred years, he would be an idiot if he couldn't understand by now.

It was clear that Sir Harren was very angry at him.

As for the reason, he could guess...

As he thought of this, Suval braced himself and sincerely said with a weak voice, "Sir Harren, I was wrong..."

"Oh?" Harren put his book aside after hearing Suval's words and solemnly looked at him, "Do you know what you did wrong?"

"I know..." A boundless pressure made it hard for Suval to breathe, he realized at this time that Harren was a lot more angry than he had expected. He lowered his head, not daring to look at Harren and said, "Sir Harren, I was muddle-headed and allowed an outsider to attack within the Black Tower's territory. Please punish me severely..."

"Hmpf!" But to Suval's surprise, Harren coldly snorted while looking at Suval. After a few minutes, he shook his head and sneered, "Looks like you still don't know what you did wrong..."

If the person involved wasn't Mafa Merlin but someone else, Harren would have most likely not gotten angry, he might have even turned a blind eye. He wouldn't have called Suval over like he just did and given him the cold shoulder.

Not mentioning the fact that the Black Tower had already established a close collaboration with the Merlin Family, this Mafa Merlin wasn't someone Suval could easily provoke.

Earlier, Harren had already noticed when Patriarch Wollings appeared and made a move against Mafa Merlin, but Harren didn't immediately move to stop him. He actually wanted to see how much the young mage improved after half a year. At the Magic Hand's gathering, the young mage could easily defeat 9th Rank High Mage Dylan with the power of a 5th Rank Great Mage. But he was already a 5th Rank High Mage now...

To be honest, Harren was looking forward to the battle between Mafa Merlin and Wollings, moreover, he wasn't worried about the young mage at all.

Because he felt that even if Wollings was a Peak 6th Rank Archmage, he shouldn't be able to truly injure the young mage within a short time. If anything felt wrong, he would be able to make a move immediately to save the young mage. Harren was full of confidence as a Peak Archmage.

But he was thoroughly shocked when the battle started, he reacted just as Wollings was about to be suppressed and killed and promptly stopped the battle.

Harren had no other choice but to acknowledge that young mage once again. As a 5th Rank High Mage, he already possessed the power to defeat a peak 6th Rank Archmage, this was quite frightening.

This made him even more convinced that the powerful existence standing behind the young mage was at least at the Heaven Rank!

How else could Mafa Merlin be so heaven defying?

“Eh...”

Suval was dumbstruck and remained motionless, a confused expression on his face. He then dazedly looked at Harren, ‘I already admitted my mistake, why...’

“You allowed Wollings to make a move within the reception room, wasn’t it to deal with Mafa Merlin?” Harren stared at Suval as he asked this question.

Even if he was in the study on the second floor, Harren clearly knew what had happened. Ever since Suval appeared, he had been extremely antagonistic towards Mafa Merlin, and he then let Wollings attack. This was clearly to handle Mafa Merlin.

‘Damn it...’

Harren felt like cursing, ‘You think you can deal with anyone and try to take care of Mafa Merlin? Is that guy someone you can handle? Let alone you, I don’t even dare to make a move against him! That guy is backed by a Heaven Rank powerhouse after all, the Black Tower would run out of luck if that Heaven Rank powerhouse became unhappy...’

Chapter 467: Interrogation

Naturally, he could only keep these words within and couldn’t tell Suval. He had told his conjectures to Weiss when he called him earlier with the goal of letting Weiss use this opportunity to get closer to Mafa Merlin. It would be even better if he could get in touch with the Heaven Rank powerhouse behind Mafa Merlin.

As for Suval...

When the Thawing Fire Tribe’s matter came to an end, Harren would send him back to the Black Tower. If he couldn’t calm down and still thought of dealing with the Merlin Family or even Mafa Merlin, then Harren would have him sent back to the Holy Land.

Harren was a bit upset as he thought of this. He impatiently looked at Suval before saying, “The Black Tower won’t protect you if you provoke Mafa Merlin.”

Harren wasn’t exaggerating. In his eyes, someone with no insight like Suval wasn’t worth offending Mafa Merlin. It would most likely anger that mysterious Heaven Rank powerhouse and bring troubles to the Black Tower. Thus, Harren, who always considered the benefits for the Black Tower above all else, wouldn’t hesitate to directly hand Suval over, regardless of what that Heaven Rank powerhouse wanted to do with him.

“I’m sorry, Sir Harren, I...”

Suval was terrified, it was the first time he saw Harren being so strict, moreover, that last sentence puzzled him, ‘The Black Tower won’t protect me if I provoke Mafa Merlin?’

‘How could this be...’

Although Mafa Merlin is extremely powerful and has the support of the Merlin Family, what was the Merlin Family in front of the Black Tower? Even a powerhouse like Oren Merlin wouldn't rashly dare to make a move on Suval.

Of course, Suval wouldn't dare to question Harren about this.

"Remember this, if you dare to provoke Mafa Merlin, you can f*ck off back to the Holy Land!" Harren took a deep breath and warned him. He then waved his hand, hinting to Suval to leave.

"Good, good... Rest assured."

Facing Harren, Suval was suffering from the invisible pressure and was quickly collapsing, nodding like a terrified child before leaving the study.

...

It was already noon by the time Lin Yun returned to the Flame Demon Fort. The dark red sun hanging in the sky was scattering cruel sunlight.

After going through the heavy defenses, Lin Yun entered the meeting room. There were only three people within the spacious meeting room: Thorne, Ida, and Yuri Merlin.

"Mafa Merlin, what did you do in the Black Tower's Dark Moon Fort today?" Thorne had a gloomy expression on his face as he threw a strict glance at Lin Yun.

He received a report concerning Mafa Merlin early this morning saying that Mafa Merlin had went to the Dark Moon Fort earlier this day, and it looked like he only returned now.

Mafa Merlin stayed in the Dark Moon Fort all morning, what did he do there?

This obviously made Thorne Merlin suspicious.

After all, the Merlin Family and the Black Tower had no relationship, and the Flame Demon Fort the Merlin Family controlled was not far from the Dark Moon Fort. They had been on guard against each other for centuries, thus he couldn't really figure out what reason Mafa Merlin had to go to the Dark Moon Fort.

It would be really bad if Mafa Merlin leaked information about the Flame Demon Fort to someone within the Dark Moon Fort. Although he didn't believe Mafa Merlin did such a thing, Thorne had to be prepared for any possibility.

Thus, just as the young mage came back, Thorne used a questioning tone as if he was dealing with a convict.

Ida, who had been sitting on the side with Yuri, was suddenly startled by Thorne's words and started sweating, 'That damn guy is deliberately starting a fight. So what if he has some private friendship with the Black Tower? Can't he pay a visit? Does he have to tell you if he meet a few people and have lunch with them too?'

The two couldn't say anything because they were wary of Thorne's status, after all, Thorne was a Planar Commander, they still had to be respectful on the surface.

Then, Ida and Yuri saw the young mage frown.

‘Oh no...’

“Sir Thorne, you are a Planar Commander, but so am I. I don’t think you have the authority to supervise my matters, haha...” Lin Yun looked at Thorne as he scratched his cheek.

“You think you are still the outsider descendant of the Merlin Family?” Thorne looked at Lin Yun, his gaze filled with hate. He then said in a deep voice, “You are now a Planar Commander of the Merlin Family. Every single move, every action you do has a lot of impact. You had better explain your purpose in going to the Dark Moon Fort, as well as whoever you met there and wash yourself clean of suspicions.”

“Sir Thorne, this isn’t good...”

At this time, even the spectating Ida and Yuri could no longer listen to this. This was accusing the young mage of capital offense, treating him as a criminal and not even considering him as a Commander.

This was courting death...

“I wonder what are the suspicions?” Lin Yun squinted, looking at Thorne with ridicule.

“Who knows whether you leaked the defensive layout of the Flame Demon Fort’s troops to the Black Tower. This is a matter of great importance, you have to come clean even if you are a Commander, if you leaked anything important, it would lead to the Flame Demon Fort’s loss. I can’t bear this responsibility.” Thorne took a deep breath, he had prepared his words while waiting for Lin Yun’s return.

In fact, Thorne just wanted to embarrass the young mage and make him know that although he was also a Commander, he had to listen to him in the Raging Flame Plane.

He would be in great trouble if he didn’t and would be suspected of colluding with enemies.

“Sir Thorne, you can’t say anything you will regret...”

Ida and Yuri’s gazes turned weird as they looked at Thorne. Others might not know, but they clearly knew that if it hadn’t been for the young mage’s crazy actions and his discovery of the Raging Flame Beastman Mages at a crucial time, the Flame Demon Fort might not have been able to hold on.

As for the young mage colluding with enemies, Ida and Yuri simply couldn’t believe it.

Why would the young mage go through so much trouble if he wanted to betray the Merlin Family, after all, the young mage was able to kill over ten Raging Flame Beastman powerhouses by himself. With such terrifying strength, he could easily get rid of Thorne, then controlling the power of the Flame Demon Fort wouldn’t be too difficult.

Moreover, Thorne’s repeated provocation made Ida and Yuri quite helpless.

“What makes you think I handed over information concerning the defenses of the Flame Demon Fort to the Black Tower?” Lin Yun couldn’t help frowning, the other side was truly vicious.

“Naturally, only you know what you did. If you are truly innocent and didn’t betray the Merlin Family, then you should be able to explain the purpose of your trip to the Dark Moon Fort...” Thorne sneered, proud of the trap he had dug as he waited for the young mage to jump into it.

“That’s confidential...”

“You... Mafa Merlin, you don’t know what’s good for you!” Thorne’s face suddenly distorted as he roared in anger, “You really think I can’t do anything to you? Do you think I won’t report what you did yesterday as well as your secret trip to the Black Tower’s Dark Moon Fort to the Ancestral Land?”

Were it not for Ida and Yuri’s persuasion, he would have already reported that matter to the Ancestral Land and wouldn’t have waited until now. The young mage leaving the Flame Demon Fort without permission at a critical time wasn’t a trivial matter, this could have led to the Flame Demon Fort falling into enemy hands. Even Thorne couldn’t take such responsibility.

Moreover, the young mage leaving alone for the Dark Moon Fort early in the morning wasn’t a small matter either. If the people from the Ancestral Land found out, they would inevitably harbor suspicions towards the young mage.

Thus, Thorne Merlin felt that he was holding over two weaknesses and that the other side should obediently listen to him. If the other side wasn’t stupid, he would admit his mistakes. Suppressing his anger and confessing was the best option.

Thorne Merlin was waiting.

“Haha, Thorne, you are such a joker. Whether you go to the Ancestral Land or not is your problem, it has nothing to do with me...” Lin Yun had a calm expression as he said this and then left without even looking at Thorne.

“This...”

Thorne was stunned as he looked at the back of the young mage, ‘Crazy, completely insane...’

‘That hateful Mafa Merlin didn’t even care about my threats, does he think I won’t dare to go through with it?’

He truly couldn’t understand why Mafa Merlin was so confident.

Yuri and Ida looked at each other before tacitly getting up and walking out, disappearing from Thorne’s murderous sight.

Only Thorne remained within the meeting room, a gloomy and cold expression on his face as killing intent raged within his heart.

He really hated Mafa Merlin.

But after calming down, he gradually realized that even in the Raging Flame Plane, it was hard for him to handle this strong guy.

‘It looks like I can only report to the Ancestral Land...’

A white piece of paper appeared in his hand and as he roused his Aura, numerous flickering runes appeared and quickly filled the piece of paper. That piece of paper then turned into countless rays of light and dissipated in the air. This was the Merlin Family's own communication method. It was extremely quick and could reach the Merlin Family within a day even if one was in another plane.

As for the letter he sent, it recounted everything that happened yesterday and today.

Surely, the Ancestral Land would be furious after receiving the latter, both of Mafa Merlin's actions overstepped his boundaries. In Thorne's eyes, stripping Mafa Merlin of his Commander's status was already letting him off easy.

Everything would be great once Mafa Merlin lost his Commander's status, Thorne had countless ways to make Mafa Merlin die. Thorne could vividly remember what happened over three months ago. He also said he would throw Mafa Merlin in the Wailing River.

Chapter 468: Commanding Rights

Lin Yun was busy thinking how to deal with the Thawing Fire Tribe, he naturally didn't have time to care about Thorne Merlin. In fact, after coming out of the meeting room, he had someone call for Yuri and Ida.

After all, he didn't have much control over the Merlin Family's Planar Legion. He had to take out enough power for the collaboration with the Black Tower to deal with the Thawing Fire Tribe, or he wouldn't be able to explain to the Black Tower and they might believe that he was insincere.

This gave him a headache.

Although he was appointed as Commander by the Ancestral Land, this Planar Legion stationed in the Raging Flame Plane had previously been led by Thorne. In the past few years, Thorne conducted battle after battle, willing to risk everything alongside those people, establishing an unshakable reputation as a Planar Commander.

Lin Yun had just arrived to the Raging Flame Plane with the status of Planar Commander, and being an outsider didn't help. Although he was sharing Thorne's authority in name, in reality, Thorne's power hadn't decreased at all. Most of the members of the Planar Legion were listening to Thorne's assignment.

Lin Yun had to find a way. A few months later, they would be officially cooperating with the Black Tower to attack the Thawing Fire Tribe, it would be hard to avoid an issue if he couldn't get a decent military by then.

With his understanding of the Black Tower, he naturally knew why they straightforwardly accepted. It was mostly because Harren wanted to reduce the risks of losses while maximizing his profits, cooperating with the Merlin Family would make both sides jointly assume the risks.

Moreover, he had been very brazen earlier this morning and directly seized 70% of the quota for the Ghost Valley. It would truly be embarrassing if he couldn't get a sufficient force.

After all, both sides had to make some efforts for the collaboration.

“Sirs, this Planar Legion defending the Flame Demon Fort, how many people would I be able to mobilize from it?”

Ida and Yuri barely entered his living quarters when Lin Yun already got to the point.

“What...”

The two froze. They didn’t expect the young mage to suddenly ask this question, but they then recalled the situation within the meeting room and their expressions suddenly changed, ‘Could it be that he wants to shed all pretense with Thorne?’ Thinking that this might be the case, Ida and Yuri’s expression suddenly turned unsightly.

They came from the Ancestral Land after all, and although they had a good opinion of the young mage while their opinion of Thorne worsened, they had to consider this from the point of view of the Merlin Family.

What good could come out of the young mage breaking off relations with Thorne, this internal struggle would harm the interest of the Merlin Family.

They had to prevent this, if they couldn’t... They truly didn’t want such a matter to happen.

“Don’t worry, I don’t want to bother with Thorne for the time being...” Seeing Ida and Yuri’s expressions, Lin Yun knew that they misunderstood, thus he scratched his cheek and continued, “I want to take control over the Ghost Valley, so I need some force. Of course, I’ll explain some things to you in the future.”

“What? Take control over the Ghost Valley...?”

When they heard Lin Yun’s first sentence, Ida and Yuri both relaxed. But they felt weird after hearing the rest, ‘He said he wanted to take control of the Ghost Valley?’

‘How could this be...’

The two had participated in several battles in the Raging Flame Plane and naturally understood that the Thawing Fire Tribe had always been eyeing the Ghost Valley. Even if they smoothly took over the Ghost Valley, the Merlin Family would need a force guarding it all year round, remaining stuck there.

The young mage’s plan to take over the Ghost Valley was a bit unrealistic.

The Merlin Family spent so much effort for so many years towards the Ghost Valley without making much progress. They didn’t believe that the young mage could manage to do it.

Although they had seen the power of the young mage, this involved the fight over the Ghost Valley, it wasn’t something one or two people could settle, it needed a huge force. Not to mention, the young mage didn’t have much Planar War experience.

“This Planar Legion followed Thorne Merlin for many years, transferring them right under Thorne’s nose is nearly impossible. But before leaving for the Raging Flame Plane, the Ancestral Land transferred some people, roughly 400 to 500 people...”

Ida and Yuri looked at each other, bitterly smiling inwardly, they truly didn't want to dampen the young mage's enthusiasm, "We are actually capable of mobilizing this group from the Ancestral Land and make them listen to your command, but, High Mage Mafa, it might be a bit troublesome to take over the Ghost Valley with just these people..."

They originally wanted to say that by relying on four to five hundred people, it would be impossible to take over the Ghost Valley, but after thinking about it, they remained tactful.

In their eyes, even if the young mage didn't have any Planar War experience, he would still know how to back out of an awkward situation.

But...

"Sirs, I shall trouble you to mobilize these people to march out of the Flame Demon Fort and leave for the Ghost Valley with me..."

Ida and Yuri definitely didn't think that Lin Yun was actually quite satisfied at this time.

Although four to five hundred people was a bit less than expected, it was always better than nothing. He originally thought that he wouldn't be able to get many people since the Planar Legion was under Thorne's control, but he happily found out that Ida and Yuri were commanding a few hundred people. Along with the three Merlin Cousins and Xiuban, this would be considered a decent force.

The conversation ended there. Lin Yun didn't delay and led his awe-inspiring group to the Ghost Valley, making some arrangements like blocking the valley and such...

The Ancestral Land's people under Lin Yun's command were mostly Great Mages, there was only ten High Mages.

This was far inferior to the force controlled by Thorne Merlin.

Soon, two months passed. During that time, Lin Yun was making proper arrangements, running back and forth between the Flame Demon Fort and the Ghost Valley. During this time, the attacks on the Flame Demon Fort showed no sign of stopping. A total of ten attacks hit the Flame Demon Fort, both large-scaled and small-scaled. Although they held their ground, they had some losses.

During this time, the atmosphere in the Flame Demon Fort was heavy. Thorne gave out some commands and had some high-ranked members of the Planar Legion leave, only leaving Ida and Yuri behind.

"Sirs, you are making trouble..."

During the two months, Thorne had already found out that Lin Yun had set his sight on the Ghost Valley. He had laughed for a long time when he heard the news.

Just where was the Ghost Valley?

That place was so rich in mana that it condensed into the form of mist. The Merlin Family did want to take over it, but the Thawing Fire Tribe wouldn't give it up, yet, Mafa Merlin wanted to recklessly take over the Ghost Valley with a mere five hundred Great Mages. In Thorne's eyes, this was simply courting death...

After all, Thorne had went through battle after battle in the Raging Flame Plane for a few dozen years, he tried to take over the Ghost Valley many times, but he failed every time. The Ghost Valley was tightly guarded by the Thawing Fire Tribe. Unless they had the power to crush the Thawing Fire Tribe, they wouldn't be able to obtain the Ghost Valley.

Thorne had observed Mafa Merlin's actions for the past two months, but chose not to stop him. He felt that this young mage was ridiculous, dreaming of handling the Thawing Fire Tribe with five hundred Great Mages? If it was that easy, the Thawing Fire Tribe would have already been eliminated by the Merlin Family, why would they wait till now?

But he didn't plan on reminding Mafa Merlin, letting him suffer for his actions was also good.

Over the years, he had gotten a good understanding of the Thawing Fire Tribe's strength, those six Great Prophets were enough to give him a headache. They all had the power of a 5th Rank Archmage, and there was also the mysterious Tribal Chief. Moreover, the Thawing Fire Tribe had numerous Prophets comparable to Archmages as well as various troops. Even if the Merlin Family pulled all the forces within the Raging Flame Plane together, it wouldn't be enough to entertain the Thawing Fire Tribe.

As for Mafa Merlin leading five hundred Great Mages, it was even more ridiculous. Thorne Merlin estimated that this force wouldn't even be able to handle the troops stationed near the Ghost Valley.

"Mafa Merlin is too young and lacks experience, it is understandable for him to be ridiculous, but you are a lot more experienced, Sirs. Why don't you advise Mafa Merlin..." Although Thorne was smiling and was treating these two Archmage very politely, his words were very harsh.

Originally, Thorne felt that Mafa Merlin's status of Commander existed only in name and he simply couldn't sway his control over the Planar Legion, and it was truly the case.

But...

Ida and Yuri Merlin, these two Archmages from the Ancestral Land, actually chose to support Mafa Merlin. Those Great Mages from the Ancestral Land who were transferred to the Flame Demon Fort were given to Mafa Merlin. This made Thorne secretly angry, but these two came from the Ancestral Land, they had deep background and couldn't be easily offended.

"Haha, High Mage Mafa is a Planar Legion Commander, he has his own judgement..."

Ida Merlin and Yuri Merlin were pale, they also wanted to advise Mafa Merlin, but they didn't dare to. Two months ago, they gave the commanding rights of these five hundred Great Mages to Mafa Merlin, and since then, the young mage was crazily running to the Ghost Valley everyday.

They felt very helpless....

Chapter 469: Busybody

Naturally, they knew Thorne was right, the young mage taking five hundred Great Mages to attack the Ghost Valley was just making a fool of himself. Not many of these five hundred Great Mages would be able to survive if they ended up fighting the Thawing Fire Tribe and it would be a huge loss for the Merlin Family.

“Sirs, you should know that two months ago I sent a report about Mafa Merlin to the Ancestral Land...” Thorne crossed his hands while softly tapping on the table, a pondering smile on his face as he took a deep look at Ida and Yuri, “If nothing unexpected happens, Mafa Merlin will be relieved of his Commander position. That way, it will stop him from making a scene.”

There had been no movement from the Ancestral Land after they received that letter, but Thorne wasn't worrying, he actually felt good. The Ancestral Land was most likely discussing how to handle Mafa Merlin. The longer it took the more serious Mafa Merlin's problem was, but ultimately, Mafa Merlin would be severely punished.

Thorne wasn't too concerned.

In his eyes, the damnable Mafa Merlin wouldn't be able to prance around any longer.

Suddenly, mana fluctuations rose up in the meeting room, prompting a happy expression to appear on Thorne's face. He knew that this was the answer from the Ancestral Land. As a surge of aura was emitted, countless golden runes appeared in the air, fiercely flickering.

“Haha, Sirs, this is so timely, the Ancestral Land's answer arrived. Let's take a look at how the Ancestral Land plans to punish Mafa Merlin...”

An unconcealable smile appeared on Thorne's face.

“O... Okay.”

Ida and Yuri's faces paled when they felt the familiar fluctuations, they weren't sure whether the young mage would be punished by the Ancestral Land or not. After all, only they knew the truth behind the battle that happened when they arrived to the Flame Demon Fort. If necessary, they were willing to testify on behalf of the young mage.

But they couldn't easily explain the matter of the young mage leaving for the Black Tower's Dark Moon Fort. The young mage, as a Commander of the Flame Demon Fort, had a special status. It would be easy for the Ancestral Land to overthink since he went alone to the Dark Moon Fort and Thorne was adding oil to the fire.

‘What should we do...’

Beads of sweat dripped down their forehead, their robes quickly getting drenched and sticking to their own backs. But they still raised their heads and looked up at the golden runes with apprehension.

After a few seconds, those golden runes started changing. Just like squirming tadpoles, they formed clear and visible characters. This was definitely the answer from the Ancestral Land, and when Ida and Yuri worryingly looked at those words, they couldn't help freezing, they then started chuckling, a faint smile on their faces.

In fact, the message from the Ancestral Land only contained one word, “Busybody”.

Busybody!

Ida and Yuri's faces were thoroughly red, they could barely resist smiling. They had imagined countless possibilities, but they had never expected the Ancestral Land's answer to actually be one word. A simple word targeted at Thorne who had reported to the Ancestral Land.

It was funny when one thought about it.

Thorne had just said that the Ancestral Land would definitely relieve Mafa Merlin of his position as a Commander, but the Ancestral Land not only didn't punish him, they were dissatisfied by Thorne Merlin, otherwise they wouldn't have told Thorne that he was a busybody.

Ida and Yuri were currently looking at Thorne with an extremely strange expression.

This was a proverbial slap which not only echoed, it was the kind that would make Thorne spit out blood.

In fact, Thorne truly had the urge to puke blood, 'What's this? I clearly reported Mafa Merlin's offenses to the Ancestral Land, yet they didn't say anything about it and scolded me instead.'

'Damn...'

'Leaving the Flame Demon Fort at a sensitive time without informing anything, almost leading to the fort falling into enemy hands, as well as secretly leaving for the Black Tower's Dark Moon Fort the next day and staying a full morning there.'

If he could, Thorne would love to ask the Ancestors, 'How could reporting this make me a busybody?'

Thorne's face was ashen, his heart was beating extremely fast as he was too upset. He had thought that taking away the young mage's Commander status was in the bag, but he hadn't expected such an outcome.

Thorne's eyes were extremely red, bloodshot. Fury raged within his heart as he looked at the word formed from those flickering yellow runes until he couldn't contain it anymore and let out a bestial roar. He had waited happily for two months, only to be treated as a busybody, how could he not be angry?

But anger was of no use.

The Ancestral Land's action clearly showed that they were discriminating in favor of the young mage, not only did they gloss over it, they clearly expressed their stance.

Thorne Merlin was turning crazy...

But suddenly, footsteps could be heard coming over as Lin Yun unhurriedly entered the reception room with a steady pace, discovering the strange atmosphere in the room.

Ida and Yuri had their heads lowered, beet red, while Thorne had an ashen face, looking at Lin Yun with an extremely strict gaze.

Lin Yun inwardly shook his head, not thinking much of it, and walked over to Thorne, "Sir Thorne, I need a part of the troops..."

"Oh?"

Thorne who was enraged to the point of exuding an icy aura was almost unable to stop himself from flipping out when he saw Lin Yun. Hearing his request, Thorne calmed down and looked at Lin Yun with bloodshot eyes, a sinister smile appearing on his face.

The Planar Legion was firmly under his control, the young mage was simply an outsider, so what if the Ancestral Land didn't revoke his status?

In fact, the young mage couldn't do anything in the Raging Flame Plane without his support.

Thorne hadn't been in favor of the young mage deploying five hundred Great Mages to the Ghost Valley, he only watched from the sidelines. It had nothing to do with him even if the young mage was leading his army to their end.

Thinking of this, Thorne threw a deep glance at the young mage before saying in an ice cold voice, "I'm sorry, Mafa, my people have other assignments, they can't leave the Flame Demon Fort without permission."

"Those are your people? I clearly remember this being the Merlin Family's Planar Legion, when have they become Sir Thorne's people? I, as a Commander, have the right to dispatch troops, this is something Sir Thorne can't deny."

"Hmpf! I naturally know that you are a Commander, you have the right to dispatch troops, thus I won't stop you if you are able to dispatch them..." Thorne snorted as he looked at Lin Yun with disdain. No one in that Planar Legion would move unless Thorne personally gave an order.

"Haha..."

Lin Yun had already guessed this outcome, he appeared calm and didn't say anything else. He only lightly smiled, glanced at Thorne Merlin and turned to leave. After going through the layers of defenses, he returned to his living quarters.

In reality, Lin Yun didn't have much hope towards this Planar Legion.

In his living quarters, he took out the Book of Death and chanted profound characters. In a flash, intense mana fluctuations rose up as his silhouette disappeared.

Lin Yun then appeared in the Demiplane, walking on the lush soil. The Demiplane was thriving, fragrant grass spreading everywhere while the trees cast their shadows and rivers flowed. A rich aura of life spread everywhere.

The Demiplane greatly changed after two months, first, the mana density increased once again, the main reason being the Mana Vine. It was originally a young sprout which needed to grow for two to three years before completely maturing.

But in the special environment of the Demiplane, the Mana Vine's growth speed had been sped up over ten times. It reached the point where it could extract mana from the void and speed the growth of the Demiplane after a bit over two months.

The rich mana assaulting his senses made Lin Yun take a deep breath. He felt refreshed, the exhaustion from running around in the past two months seemed to have greatly decreased. As he wandered around the lush lawn, he caught sight of pairs and trios of mages full-heartedly meditating. Mana was visible

with naked eyes, taking the shape of a fog. It felt as if mana was under some sort of attractive force and steadily flowed towards their bodies. Their auras were continuously undergoing an almost imperceptible change.

After mastering the Swift Star Mark Meditation Law Set, the efficiency of their meditation would make anyone jealous. The fifty mages had stayed in the Demiplane for over two months and spent all their time meditating. When he arrived, Lin Yun roused his Magic Array to cover the entire area and suddenly discovered that the least gifted among them, Taji, was already a 9th Rank Great Mage. As for the others, most were already standing at the peak of the 9th Rank, attempting to advance to the High Mage realm.

Lin Yun was secretly startled by their improvement, after all, two months ago, most of these people had merely been 1st Rank Great Mages, while the stronger had been 5th Rank Great Mages. But they had turned their fate around and all became 9th Rank Great Mages.

No one would believe it if this spread out.

The naturally formed Demiplane was a blessed environment for meditation, the 14-Formulas Swift Star Mark, and their magic talents undergoing qualitative changes due to the influence of the Ancient God's aura. All these reasons put together made the fifty mages quickly improve. In fact, after considering everything, had they not become 9th Rank Great Mages after all this time, Lin Yun would have wondered if they had been lazing around while he wasn't there.

Chapter 470: Accelerated Transformation

Lin Yun originally thought that these people would become High Mages within three months. They already reached 9th Rank after two months, there would be no issue reaching High Mage realm within the last month.

But he could no longer wait.

To be more precise, it was because of the collaboration with the Black Tower. When the war was officially started, he wouldn't be able to avoid taking out a powerful force. Even if the Black Tower was the main force of that war, the five hundred Great Mages from the Merlin family legion felt like grains of sand, it made him a bit embarrassed.

It would be better presentable if fifty High Mages were added.

Moreover, they weren't ordinary High Mages...

Lin Yun didn't disturb their meditation and instead went to the forest in the center of the Demiplane, following the path from his memory. He soon reached the square-shaped array and was assaulted by thick mana. A few hundred meters ahead of him was a pond in which liquid mana flowed and at the bottom of the pond was a glittering radiance. Lin Yun naturally knew that mana crystals had been piling up at the bottom of the pond for a long time.

The two fused Ancient God's soul fragments were peacefully laying on a vacant surface, their surroundings absolutely empty. The changes within the Demiplane had been triggered by the Ancient

God's soul fragments, and as Lin Yun approached, he could feel the frightening mana fluctuations, making him somewhat fearful. A wisp of cold sweat dripped down his forehead.

His back was already drenched by the time he arrived in front of the Ancient God's soul fragments. Lin Yun was tense as he looked at the Ancient God's soul fragments, before slowly crouching and reaching his hand to grab the soul fragments. He could clearly feel the terrifying power contained within the Ancient God's soul fragments, it was hard to describe.

Even with his current strength, he still felt insignificant in front of the Ancient God's soul fragments.

"Damnit...."

Lin Yun cursed, to be honest, if he could, he would never touch this thing. Ancient Gods were terrifying existences, everything related to them was taboo, touching a taboo would bring countless disasters.

But...

Nothing could be done about it, he needed to join with the Black Tower soon to launch an attack on the Thawing Fire Tribe, if he couldn't present a decent force by then, they might end up parting on bad terms and his several months of work would turn to smoke. Who knows when he could get the Chromatic Dragon Crystal within the Raising Dragon Array if he missed this opportunity.

Thus, he could only choose to take the risk and go fetch the Ancient God's soul fragment. If everything went smoothly, the time those fifty mages needed to reach the High Mage realm would be greatly cut down.

"Damn it! Merlin! What are you doing..."

Just as Lin Yun picked up the Ancient God's soul fragment, a black smoke rose up from the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel, distorting before turning into three strange faces. These three faces were filled with alarmed expressions as they dazedly looked at Lin Yun, letting out a shocked shout, "Damnit, this isn't a joke! I already told you, Ancient God's soul fragments are the most evil and frightening things in this world, you'll bring disaster upon yourself."

"Yeah, I know..."

Enderfa's sudden appearance as well as his exasperated words startled Lin Yun, he almost let the soul fragment fall to the ground. With a pale expression, he turned and looked at Enderfa, rolling his eyes, 'If I didn't have a better option, would I go for the Ancient God's soul fragment?'

But Lin Yun had no intention to explain his plan to Enderfa as he was still holding the soul fragment, remaining vigilant.

"Heavens, what do you know? You still dare to touch an Ancient God's soul fragment..." Lin Yun's answer made Enderfa's fearful expressions turn to anger, his voice carrying a lot more regrets. He was too unlucky, he originally thought that the young mage he followed had boundless prospects and that he might regain his strength in the future, as well as possess a body.

But, the longer he followed this young mage, the more he felt that this way of thinking was naive. What was this young mage doing? In the Aurij Mountain Range, he put an Ancient God's soul fragment in his

Demiplane, he then made a trip to the Tulan Mountain Range. More and more dangerous events kept happening, scaring him every time.

And today, he actually provoked the sleeping Ancient God's soul fragments, this was simply courting death.

It would be a disaster if the Ancient God's soul awakened, just like in that valley back then. Not only the young mage, but Enderfa and the fifty mages in this Demiplane would be buried in that disaster.

Lin Yun didn't have extra energy to deal with Enderfa, his mind was focused on the Ancient God's soul fragment. Drops of cold sweat dripped down his forehead as he was growing more and more anxious. He cautiously poured a faint wisp of mana into the soul fragment, and suddenly, the soul fragment emitted blazing and freezing power. Suddenly, an imposing silhouette surging with power appeared in his mind.

At this time, the power of his body was drained, he could hardly make a move. Black clouds shrouded the entire Demiplane, gales whistled past, thunder boomed, lightning surged, it felt as if the entire Demiplane was undergoing judgement day.

Subsequently, the mana flowing in the surroundings surged, becoming berserk.

"F*ck, f*ck, f*ck..."

As Enderfa fearfully roared, the gales weakened, the lightnings dissipated, and light pierced through the black clouds, shining on the Demiplane. That berserk mana also calmed down. The Demiplane was now filled with boundless mana.

"Phew..."

After doing this, Lin Yun collapsed, pale like a sheet of paper, beads of sweat dripping down his forehead. He slowly let go of the soul fragment and that terrifying soul fragment was once again peacefully laying on the ground.

After a deep breath, he could clearly feel that his body had been completely drained of mana. As Enderfa said, his action was extremely dangerous, he had used his own mana to rouse the Ancient God's soul fragment. That was a move that could make that frightening existence awaken from its slumber.

But Lin Yun had gone through countless dangers at the End of the Magic Era, his control of mana had reached an extremely precise level and with the almost omnipotent Magic Array, he could sever the flow of mana before the soul fragment reached the critical point.

Thus, he achieved his purpose.

At this moment, visible mana was flowing within the Demiplane. Under the influence of that power, mountains and rivers quickly expanded, those lush trees also grew at a crazy speed while the mana in the pond continuously flickered with a shining glimmer. A translucent crystal was settled at the bottom of the pond.

The entire Demiplane underwent an amazing transformation.

Naturally, those fifty Great Mages were no exceptions. They were all silently meditating and weren't aware of Lin Yun's arrival, but when the Ancient God's frightening power burst out, they were all awakened and they all looked at the sky, stunned. Fear filled their hearts, they had been meditating for so long, but it was the first time they had seen such power.

Fortunately, that frightening power only appeared for a few seconds before disappearing without a trace, replaced by a surge of mana, making those fifty mages go wild with joy. They didn't need to be reminded that it was an extremely rare opportunity, they all entered the most optimal meditative state...

After a short few minutes, a shocking mana fluctuation rose up as one of them was in the middle of advancement to the High Mage realm. A gale swirled around him as boundless mana was attracted, transforming into a huge whirlpool. Nine massive flaming shadows could be seen floating above his head, emitting an extremely hot aura. This scene continued for over three minutes before those nine shadows fused together and returned to that mage's body.

After the first High Mage finished fusing the Blazing Storm Magic Conducting Rune and became a High Mage, countless mana fluctuations appeared. From Lin Yun's location, he could see countless blazing shadows, this was an extremely shocking and awe-inspiring scene.

One 9th Rank Great Mage after the other underwent their transformations into High Mages.

The Demiplane was bound to lose its peace today.

Not a wisp of mana remained within Lin Yun's Mana Whirlpools and Alchemic Mana Whirlpools. He sat on the lawn at the edge of the pond as he met the rich mana assaulting his senses and entered a meditative state, letting one wisp of mana after the other enter his body. As for Enderfa, he looked at Lin Yun with bitterness but ended up remaining silent. He turned back into a black smoke and squeezed into the Ten Thousand Spell Wheel.

This meditative state continued for a full day, the exhaustion of his mind and body had been completely washed away. At this time, the fifty mages within the Demiplane had completed their transformations, merging their nine Magic Conducting Runes into one and becoming High Mages. Many people were comparing notes, gradually adapting to their power as High Mages.

As for Lin Yun who completed his meditation, he didn't stay too long in the Demiplane, after chanting a profound incantation, he disappeared without a trace and appeared within his living quarters. He had no plan to stay within the Flame Demon Fort, he would rather rush to the Ghost Valley. And so he reached the Ghost Valley after roughly half an hour.

This was a very hidden place surrounded by a verdant and lush jungle on all sides. The legion of five hundred Great Mages, including Ida and Yuri, as well as the three Merlin Cousins and Xiuban, had been stationed here for the past two months.