Magic Era 831

Chapter 831: Point System

The conference room was in chaos, and when everyone talked about what forces they could provide, they were all shirking from their duties.

If it wasn't that their Family had suffered disastrous losses and only had few troops left, then they were guarding too many locations and could spare only so much of their forces from Noscent.

Their expressions and actions were in disagreement. They couldn't help rushing forward when benefits were mentioned, but they couldn't help wanting to conserve as much power as they could.

They quarrelled for more than ten minutes without any results, and some people almost started fighting on the spot after being exposed by others.

Only the representatives of the seven forces sitting at the largest round table remained silent.

After a while, the Azure Wave Sword Saint slightly opened his eyes and glanced at Harren, who had a disdainful smile on his face.

Harren casually swept a look around. He saw Lin Yun drowsily sitting in his chair and couldn't help smiling. As he looked at Jouyi, he faintly nodded.

This time, Harren extended his finger and softly tapped twice on the round table.

"Thud... Thud..."

A wisp of a mana fluctuation flickered away as the two sharp sounds echoed like thunder in everyone's ears.

Lin Yun's eyes opened as he yawned from boredom, aware that the show was finally about to start.

Harren's taps on the table were beyond what the average person could accomplish. It already involved the power of Laws, using sound as a medium to spread his wisp of mana, causing everyone's mana to resonate for a short moment. The weaker one was, the more they were affected.

Great Mages had expressions of pain on their faces. That sound was like a thunderclap echoing in their ears the moment their mana resonated. If it hadn't been for Harren having no killing intent, they would have already died.

As for the High Mages, they couldn't help clamping their mouths shut and turning pale. Only Archmages weren't affected too much.

But Low Rank Archmages still went silent, busy calming their rising ripples of mana. The stronger the person, the less they were affected.

Only the faces of those sitting at the central round table didn't change color. The powerhouses sitting there were all above the 5th Rank.

Lin Yun didn't seem to be affected at all. His waking yawn surprised Jouyi, before being replaced by a smile.

Harren's eyes flickered and he paid more attention to Lin Yun.

The Azure Wave Sword Saint also suddenly started looking at Lin Yun.

In an instant, the most powerful trio of Star Sage Jouyi, Black Tower Chairman Harren, and the Azure Wave Sword Saint, were all very clear about the different levels of power in the meeting room.

The meeting room remained silent for three to four seconds, and it felt as if even the wind had stopped.

This time, Harren slowly started talking. "What you are worried about is how to guarantee your interests if we win the bet. That is a very simple issue."

As Harren spoke, the Azure Wave Sword Saint closed his eyes and remained silent. Jouyi also remained silent, and the two people looked to be showing agreement.

This time, everyone could feel it.

Harren's words represented the Black Tower, and the Star Sage's attitude meant that the Cloud Tower tacitly agreed with Harren's words.

In this way, the two strongest forces of the Andlusa Kingdom had expressed their stances, and the Azure Wave Sword Saint representing the royal family didn't intervene.

Everyone knew that Harren's next words would be the conclusion.

"No one wants to exert themselves to end up with nothing.

"If we win the bet, then the territories controlled by every major force will inevitably be redivided, and we will be fair when it comes to the division. When participating in the general attack, whoever contributes the most will obtain corresponding rewards.

"Everything will be distributed based on how much each party contributes. I believe no one is against that? Moreover, I know you are afraid of suffering huge losses in this general attack, making it so that you are unable to keep your territory.

"Thus, we, as leaders of the seven major forces, will take the lead in signing a blood oath. The profits will be divided based on contribution, and the territory distribution will satisfy everyone. Every territory rewarded to a force here won't be allowed to change hands within five hundred years.

"This way, whether it's in open battle, in the dark, or even through threats, no one can take away your gains.

"Even if your losses are disastrous in this battle, that area will remain yours for five hundred years, and you won't be able to give it away.

"If anyone wants to violate this condition, the seven major forces signing this blood oath will have to stand up and attack the violator."

No one refuted Harren's suggestion. They all knew it was very fair, but it was also filled with loopholes.

After some time, an old Archmage seated at a table said, "Sir Harren, I have a question. Everyone knows this is the best method, but how is this contribution calculated? With no basis, anyone can say that they contributed a bit more."

Harren made a grabbing motion in the air, and a crystal ball appeared in his hand. The lower part of the crystal ball was embedded on an artistically carved golden stand. Four thin curved claws akin to a woman's slender fingers were fastening the crystal ball to the carved golden stand.

There were numerous runes continuously rushing forth through the crystal ball, and at the top was floating a huge zero.

"Words can't just be used to ensure fairness and make sure that everyone is satisfied. This crystal ball is a Magic Tool... No, it can't really be considered a Magic Tool, it can only be considered a toy.

"But it comes from the Nesser Dynasty. It is a toy of the Pureblood Elves. It cannot affect battle, but it has a very mystical function. It can build a kind system that tracks scores, a point system.

"Everyone knows that although Pureblood Elves were formidable, they weren't very fertile. Their ability to reproduce couldn't compare to us Humans. Every single Pureblood Elf was very valuable to them, but they didn't wish to conduct bloody massacre to nurture their descendants, so they paid more attention to their overall ability rather than their individual strength.

"This crystal ball was a very popular toy in the Nesser Dynasty. It can simulate a battlefield and reflect everyone on the battlefield in real-time. How many points you gain from killing an ordinary fighter and a Beastman Warlock will naturally be different.

"Moreover, the points obtained from killing a 1st Rank High Mage and killing a 2nd Rank High Mage are also different. Your contribution will be recorded within."

After saying that, Harren snapped his fingers loudly, and two guards came in from outside, escorting an ordinary Beastman Warrior. Harren softly snapped his fingers and a faint mana fluctuation flashed over. That Beastman Warrior didn't have time to scream; he lost his life in an instant without any marks appearing on his body.

At this time, the "0" floating in the crystal ball in Harren's hands turned into a "1".

When they saw this, everyone understood that the crystal ball had recorded the kill of the Beastman Warrior. It was obvious.

That white-haired Archmage frowned and asked another question. "Sir Harren, this point system is too hasty. If we just killed ordinary Raging Flame Beastmen, we could rack up thousands of points by killing an army, this isn't good..."

Many people were also worried, as this seemed too easy to take advantage of. As long as they received the news early enough, they could focus on killing ordinary Beastman Warriors and easily massacre several thousand of them.

Harren smiled and pointed at the crystal ball.

"Look, an ordinary Beastman Warrior is only worth one point, but Beastman Warlocks on the High Mage realm might be worth four to five thousand points. If you can kill a powerful Tribal Chief, you could get over a million points.

"So don't think about taking a shortcut... That is simply impossible. The Raging Flame Plane's ordinary Beastman Warriors combined aren't worth as much as a Tribal Chief."

Some people were skeptical after hearing Harren's words.

"Sir Harren, this kill-for-point system isn't too fair. If I have a hard battle with a Raging Flame Beastman for half an hour and only need one more attack, but someone swoops in and steals the last hit, wouldn't I have wasted my strength?"

Harren didn't get impatient as he carefully explained, "Don't underestimate this thing. It was used by the Pureblood Elves to groom their younger generation, not to nurture them into killers that racked up kills, but in order to cultivate their overall abilities.

"This thing simulates an entire military campaign. From start to end, it surveys everything and everyone.

"Moreover, the most mysterious ability of this crystal ball is that it can figure out each and every move that influenced the military campaign. It doesn't only give points for a kill.

"Like in the example you just gave, someone stealing your kill after you fought for a very long time and were about to finish your opponent... That Raging Flame Beastman might have been a High Mage who was originally worth five 5,000 points. Your contribution might end up being worth 4,900 points because you made that Raging Flame Beastman lose its power, and the person that ultimately killed the Raging Flame Beastman would only get 100 points.

"It is impossible for your contributions to be ignored, and there is no point in trying to steal from others.

"It might even be possible that the Raging Flame Beastman that you fought was transporting important supplies and was discovered by you, but after a bitter struggle, was still killed by someone else.

"This would have a huge influence on the battlefield and might be worth 10,000 points, giving you 9,900 points.

Chapter 832: Enticing

"Every single one of your moves will be taken into account, and the influence on the campaign will be calculated. The points aren't 'whoever kills more gets more'."

After Harren explained, the one that originally raised the question slightly bowed towards Harren and expressed that he had no further concerns.

"Sir Harren, if we don't charge at the forefront, won't we obtain fewer points?"

Harren shook his head.

"This crystal ball's ability is unfathomable... Even I can't understand it, but it definitely wouldn't make a mistake. It seems that you still don't understand. This crystal ball doesn't score kills, it scores how much of an impact you had on the military campaign.

"For example, if you killed one enemy in the entire military campaign, and that enemy was an ordinary Shaman of the Raging Flame Beastmen, you might still obtain a few hundred thousand points.

"It's because that small action might have brought about a huge effect on the entire military campaign.

"Maybe that ordinary Shaman was the disciple of the strongest Shaman of the Raging Flame Beastmen and carried many medicines to treat injuries, but because of his death, the medicines couldn't be delivered were lost. And the best Shaman in their Tribe might have also received a serious injury and was waiting for the medicine, but that ordinary Shaman's death led to the death of that best Shaman.

"And then, the battlefield had reached a critical point and their Tribal Chief might have escaped with serious injuries, but their Tribe's best Shaman had died, and no one left could treat the Tribal Chief, leading to his death.

"And this Tribal Chief's death would lead to the Raging Flame Beastmen completely collapsing, which would then lead to the victory of our military campaign.

"Normally, no one would know about this process, but with this crystal ball, it's possible that a small action on your part influencing the military campaign could make you a hero that led us to victory.

"Your contribution would be the greatest. Although you just killed an ordinary Shaman, you directly tipped the scales and created the conditions for victory.

"Thus, it's not just 'kills for points' or anything like that. This thing is absolutely fair, it cannot be counterfeited. The butterfly effect you started would never be overlooked."

Harren stopped there. He had clearly explained everything, and everyone now understood how it worked. Every single small force was eager to give it a try.

And with the blood oath, even if they had great losses, they wouldn't need to worry too much about not getting their rewards.

But at this time, Harren splashed cold water onto their faces.

"In this bet, the Odin Kingdom is also using this point system."

Suddenly, all those who had suddenly become excited as the fruits of victory seemed to be just in front of them went pale.

Odin Kingdom.

These two words felt like a huge mountain pressuring everyone. Even Jouyi, Harren, and the Azure Wave Sword Saint didn't look great.

The Odin Kingdom occupied Noscent's best piece of land. Most of the terrain was flat and fertile, and it was also rich in resources. Apart from the hinterland, the other directions were completely filled with natural strongholds, which facilitated entering and exiting while also being easily defendable.

The many ruins and the rich heritage made the Odin Kingdom's strength far surpass the other Kingdoms.

They originally thought that this point system would make everyone's harvest fairer, and with the oath, no one would cause trouble.

But they had neglected the biggest issue, which was that the gains of this victory weren't in their possession yet.

It could even be said that everything they had discussed, the oath, the gains from victory, the conquest of the Raging Flame Plane, everything would have meaning only if they could win against the Odin Kingdom.

If they couldn't defeat the Raging Flame Beastmen and couldn't win against the Odin Kingdom, then their discussion would only be idle chatter.

This battle was very fair. None of the forces could find any faults with that, but now, everyone started feeling a hint of despair.

In an absolutely fair competition, could they still win against the Odin Kingdom?

The enemies this time weren't just the Raging Flame Beastmen, who were bound to be defeated... There was also the Odin Kingdom.

After all, in the current circumstances, the Beastmen's defeat was already a foregone conclusion. But nothing had happened yet, and no one could know for certain what would come next. Maybe those Raging Flame Beastmen still had a trump card they had yet to use.

Who knew if the general attack would go smoothly? They might even be defeated... It wasn't an insignificant possibility.

Most importantly, with this point system, the Odin Kingdom felt even more threatening. They were stronger and would inevitably rack up more points.

And although the first-rate forces of the Odin Kingdom hadn't come, there were a few famous powerhouses that were joining the general attack on the Raging Flame Plane.

The Andlusa Kingdom was facing an enemy and a competitor, greatly increasing the pressure.

The atmosphere in the meeting room became somewhat oppressive, and it didn't take long for all the basic matters to be discussed. They were all somewhat eager to leave and prepare for the expedition.

Although Lin Yun hadn't expected that crystal ball to appear, he more or less knew how it would go.

The bait wasn't attractive enough to make those greedy rats act, and there was a lot of danger. How could it work out?

But this crystal ball's point system could actually solve many problems, and when the time came, all the benefits would be obtained according to their contributions.

Lin Yun represented the Merlin Family as the commander there and was naturally qualified to sit at the central round table to represent one of the seven major forces.

Now that the meeting was over and everyone hurriedly left, the Star Sage, who had remained silent all along, suddenly moved his lips. A wisp of mana wrapped an aged but gentle voice and transmitted it to Lin Yun's ears.

"Sir Mafa, please wait a moment."

Lin Yun's expression changed, and he even saw Harren nodding with a smile.

'What's going on with the two of them? Could it be that the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower are cooperating?'

Lin Yun was puzzled but didn't leave. He instead followed Harren and Jouyi to another small meeting room.

Just as they sat, Jouyi sighed as he looked at Lin Yun.

"Greetings, Sir Mafa. It's been a year since we last met..."

Lin Yun nodded with a smile. He was quite respectful towards Jouyi. This was a true mage, a respected scholar. Had it not been for Jouyi spending a large amount of time analyzing a formula, he might have already advanced to the Heaven realm.

Ever since Lin Yun solved the formula, Jouyi's aura had been undergoing formidable growth, and if nothing unexpected happened, he should advance to the Heaven realm soon.

"Greetings, Sir Jouyi, long time no see. Your magic has clearly improved a lot, it looks like your breakthrough is just around the corner."

At this time, Jouyi smiled and said to Harren, "Didn't I say that next time we met, we might have to call him Sir Mafa?"

Harren helplessly shrugged and bitterly chuckled.

"Yes, I didn't think it was possible, but who would have thought that Sir Mafa would progress at such speed? Moreover, only you, I, as well as Sir Azure Wave Sword Saint... oh, and that old fox, Prophet Deloy, noticed that Mafa's strength isn't too far from ours."

Jouyi sighed and glanced at Lin Yun.

"Yes, I'm afraid not many people noticed that Harren's table tap was a spell called Intimidation. This is a spell that came from the Chromatic Dragons and was adapted by humans into a relatively neglected spell.

"Very few people understand that the closer one is to the spell, the greater the effect. It rapidly weakens as it spreads. The spell power was at its greatest within five meters.

"At that distance, only those with a very small difference in strength would be completely unaffected. At the round table, besides me and the Azure Wave Sword Saint, only you remained completely unaffected.

"Sir Mafa, you were careless and revealed your strength, haha," Jouyi gleefully explained.

An expression of understanding flashed on Lin Yun's face, but he only smiled and didn't acknowledge it.

There were too many spells in the world, and support spells that didn't affect the battle were too numerous. Although the Magic Array could display the effects of that spell within a split second, Lin Yun didn't research it in-depth, as it wasn't necessary.

Harren let out a sigh.

"Sir Mafa, I've regretted it quite a bit... I should have brought you back to the Black Tower back then.

"You are too talented... No, it's not just that you are too talented. I've seen many talented people, but no one could advance at the same speed as you.

"There are no shortcuts in the path of a mage. Mana, runes, and knowledge have to be slowly accumulated and fused with the Magic Conducting Rune. The fastest person I have seen had done this process and advanced to the Archmage realm at 63.

"As for you, you took what, two years? Three years?

"More importantly, I am certain that you didn't take a shortcut, your foundation is stronger than everyone's, and it is frighteningly stable like a mountain. This is what I regret the most.

"If I had been decisive back then, I might have been able to tie you to the Black Tower. I should have given anything you wanted as long as you joined the Black Tower.

"Of course, it's still okay now. If you come to the Black Tower, the position of Chairman will be yours, and I'll act as your support..."

Chapter 833: Cooperation

Harren sighed again, his face filled with genuine regret. Even if he said those words with a joking tone, he still wanted to get Lin Yun to join the Black Tower.

Harren was not only regretting; his stomach was hurting from regret. The small mage that was selling Meditation Law Sets back then was now an Archmage...

Moreover, his aura was calm and reserved, just like an ancient and unmovable mountain, making people unable to sense his specific rank. They could only feel how terrifying it was within fleeting mana fluctuations. It was absolutely comparable to a 9th Rank Archmage...

And the most terrifying part was that he was definitely not a 9th Rank Archmage!

This was certainly the most frightening part. After all, in the Archmage realm, the 5th Rank was a watershed. The difference between every rank from that point on would become bigger and bigger.

The gap between each rank would be more important than the previous realm.

It's said that there are six steps in the Archmage realm. The 1st Rank to the 5th Rank makes up the first step.

The 6th Rank is the 2nd, and so on, with the 9th Rank being the 5th step. Being half a step in the Heaven realm was the 6th step, and after that 6th step was the Heaven realm, where one would become an Extraordinary powerhouse and be able to stand above the mortals.

In the process of scaling that flight of stairs, there wouldn't be an exaggerated gap between people on the same step. At most, some first-rate powerhouses could be invincible within their step, but an extremely small number could achieve that across a step.

Before their eyes was such an individual. Harren was certain that this newly advanced Archmage was that kind of rarely seen genius that could bridge across steps.

'Damnit, if I had pulled him into the Black Tower early on, the Black Tower would have definitely become the strongest force of the Andlusa Kingdom and might have become even more powerful within a millennium.'

The strength of a force was, to a certain extent, dependent on the strongest powerhouse within it.

A Heaven Rank powerhouse, even one that didn't do anything, would make his force rapidly develop just with his presence.

'A powerhouse that is bound to reach the Heaven Rank, and one whose fighting power far exceeds powerhouses of the same level... such a person is wasted on the Merlin Family.

'The Merlin Family sure is lucky...

Hearing Harren's joking words and seeing his smile, Lin Yun didn't jump on the opportunity.

"Sir Harren praises me too much..."

Jouyi happily smiled and ruthlessly gave Harren another blow.

"Sir Harren, you have only seen Sir Mafa's talent and advancement speed, but you have overlooked something even rarer and more important. Sir Mafa is an alchemist, one that has already risen and become an Artisan!"

Harren's face distorted when he heard the word Artisan. He felt as if he had actually been stabbed, and he covered his face in pain.

'Damnit, an Artisan?! There are no more than three Artisans in the entire Andlusa Kingdom! And two of them are hardly ever seen... Who knows which plane they had gone to?

'This young Artisan is in his twenties!? Is he the reincarnation of a God?

'Forget it, no matter what price the Black Tower pays, it won't be enough to make him come to the Black Tower. I'd better just maintain a friendly relationship with him.

Even if Mafa wasn't a powerhouse, just the word "Artisan" was enough for the Black Tower to do their best to befriend him.

Harren was at a loss, but Jouyi was laughing happily.

'Mafa's progress is truly too fast, whether in terms of rank or alchemy abilities. Fortunately, Mafa has forged a very good relationship with us since he was only a Mage.

'Ha, I still remember when he solved that formula, I truly hadn't expected him to mature so fast that no one had time to react!

'If I hadn't known Mafa from the start, I wouldn't have believed that he'd reached this stage in such a short period of time.

'Now, he is already qualified to stand on equal footing, he is qualified to cooperate with the Cloud Tower. It might not be long before he's someone I have to look up to...

'He wouldn't advance to the Heaven Rank before me, right?

'Impossible, too much time has to be spent at the Archmage realm. He needs time to stabilize, he wouldn't be able to advance that fast...'

Jouyi was startled as this thought flashed in his mind. What made him feel even more horrified was that he couldn't be sure.

Jouyi and Harren were both sighing, and they overtly and covertly expressed their kindness towards Lin Yun.

Lin Yun naturally knew the meaning behind their actions. He didn't deny his own strength or make modest explanations, as it would seem fake in front of these two.

"Thank you for your attention, but, Sir Jouyi, Sir Harren, you didn't look for me to praise me, did you? I'll blush if you continue..."

Jouyi and Harren laughed out loud. Jouyi took the lead with a solemn attitude.

"Sir Mafa, what is your opinion on the general attack of the Raging Flame Plane, and on the bet with the Odin Kingdom?"

Lin Yun simply answered, "This matter has already reached this point. No one can stop it, and it really is the best method.

On the side, Harren said, "I think our chances at victory aren't very great. Sir Mafa, what do you think?"

Lin Yun was a little stunned as he looked at Harren. He hadn't expected these words.

Such words had a different meaning when said by Harren compared to when it was said by the fools fanning the flames outside. These were his true thoughts.

"It's not very hopeful. The Odin Kingdom occupies the best area of Noscent, it is rich in resources and has acquired the remains of the 3rd Dynasty. Even the 3rd Dynasty's royal court is their capital. Their strength far surpasses the Andlusa Kingdom. It'll be very difficult for us to win." Harren and Jouyi nodded at Lin Yun's words.

Harren glanced at Jouyi before solemnly looking at Lin Yun.

"Sir Mafa, Sir Jouyi and I stayed behind this time to talk about cooperation.

"You know that the benefits of the bet with the Odin Kingdom far outweigh the disadvantages. Because the general attack is a foregone conclusion, the conquest of the Raging Flame Plane has entered its last stage. There is no way to delay it, and moreover, the more it's put off, the more unfavorable it would be to us.

"If all goes as planned, the victory is already a matter of time. But then, our Andlusa Kingdom will inevitably come into conflict with the Odin Kingdom. In order to control the Raging Flame Plane, war is inevitable.

"At that time, we'd have no chance.

"We have gotten the news that a few top-notch forces of the Odin Kingdom are now occupied and don't have time to participate in the conquest of the Raging Flame Plane. Even the peak troops of the Odin Kingdom are all stalled by other matters.

"This is our best opportunity to make a huge bet with the Odin Kingdom and compete over it in an unconventional way.

"Like this, we can obtain benefits from the Raging Flame Plane and not have to go back empty-handed...

"I, on behalf of the Black Tower, and Sir Jouyi, on behalf of the Cloud Tower, signed an agreement. We will cooperate in this general attack.

"Bluntly said, the Black Tower and the Cloud Tower are the two peak forces of the Andlusa Kingdom, but we are a bit inferior to those first-rate forces of the Odin Kingdom. Even the Burning Tower participating in the general attack is a bit stronger than the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower.

"And with the addition of the Quicksand Tower and the Sky City, two forces not much different from the Burning Tower in terms of power, our two forces would find it difficult to resist.

"Thus, Sir Jouyi and I hoped to talk to you. We hoped that our three forces could cooperate to win this great bet. This would be the key to victory."

Hearing this news, Lin Yun was somewhat startled. He originally thought that none of the Odin Kingdom's peak forces had come, only sending second-rate forces, but he hadn't thought that even though the strongest forces hadn't come, three major forces only second to them had appeared.

The Burning Tower was located in an always active volcano that they had complete control over. The volcano would no longer erupt, but a large amount of lava flowed from it in a long, flaming river.

The Burning Tower inherited the legacy of the 3rd Dynasty's Burning Army. Their famous Magic Conducting Rune was the Burning Rune, and they were experts in large-scale conflicts. The Magic Conducting Rune's power, which leaned towards burning and large-scale scorched earth, would inevitably appear in battle.

They were very experienced in wars of attrition, and the Burning Tower would conquer a large-scale plane on their own in the future. Everything within a thousand kilometers would remain red.

As for the Quicksand Tower, they were situated in the lower reaches of the huge river that passed through the Odin Kingdom. The river swept along a large amount of sediment and had once caused great trouble for the Odin Kingdom.

The river had even forced people to abandon large sections of natural resources and land. When the Quicksand Tower first established themselves here, there were almost no signs of habitation within five hundred kilometers.

But the founder of the Quicksand Tower, that Heaven Mage titled the Sand Son, relied on his own power to expand the Lubuc River's lower reaches to cover over a hundred meters.

After all, the Odin Kingdom was completely flat. Once the lower reaches were extended, the river was brought under control, and the Kingdom gained several thousand kilometers of land and could resume extracting natural resources.

The Lubuc River, which had been constantly wreaking havoc, was finally sorted out, and the Quicksand Tower became the only ruler of this enormous region.

That riverbed stretching over several thousand kilometers was made up of yellow sand and was, to this day, a masterpiece that made people gasp in surprise, because the surface of the Lubuc River had to be over a hundred meters from the bottom!

After so many years of development, the Quicksand Tower had already become a powerful force of the Odin Kingdom, second only to the first-rate forces.

Chapter 834: Help

When Lin Yun saw the records in the decaying library, he wanted to see that miracle stretching for thousands of kilometers, but it had already disappeared.

Only a Heaven Rank powerhouse could do such things, the strongest kind of Heaven Rank powerhouse.

If the Sand Son hadn't disappeared into some unknown plane, perhaps into the endless void, the Quicksand Tower would have been fully deserving of being Odin Kingdom's strongest force.

The Sky City was the most mysterious of the three. They didn't have a fixed territory, or perhaps it was better to say that their territory was within the Odin Kingdom's southern Cloud Mountains.

And that was only the most basic territory of the Sky City. Their true headquarters were at the Sky City from the 3rd Dynasty.

That huge city floating in the sky was always hidden in the Cloud Mountains, and apart from the Sky City's people, no one knew any details about its location, and very few people could climb onto the Sky City.

Those who were fortunate enough to see it had expressed their speechlessness in front of that magnificent sight.

The Sky City's strength was also at the forefront of the Odin Kingdom, and it had been overseen by a Heaven Rank powerhouse for a long time.

Lin Yun also knew that during the Planar Colonization Era, the Sky City had been in the limelight. That huge floating city could be regarded as a huge war fortress, and they conquered many planes.

But after several thousand years, that floating city fell to the ground, and the Sky City would fall soon after.

Now, although the Sky City hadn't developed to that point yet, it was still one of the formidable forces of the Odin Kingdom.

Information about these three forces instantly flashed through Lin Yun's mind, and he also understood why Jouyi and Harren looked for him.

It was because these three forces were likely the strongest forces of the Odin Kingdom in the Raging Flame Plane. Their leaders shouldn't be Heaven Rank powerhouses, but they should be comparable to Jouyi and Harren.

At such a time, someone qualified to cooperate with Jouyi and Harren would be facing these three forces with them while the remaining small forces would be handled by the rest of Andlusa's forces.

The ones with the greatest potential to influence the outcome of this war would still be the strongest forces.

In other words, whether this huge bet would be a victory or a defeat would depend on the contest between the strongest forces of each side.

"Sir Mafa, I believe you understand the current circumstances. We have to be united. Sir Jouyi and I aren't very optimistic about the others, but we both think highly of you. We hope you could help us defeat the Odin Kingdom."

Harren said those words with sincerity. He didn't speak about benefits, but with the point system, it was already a matter of fact that once victory was reached, the greatest winners would inevitably be the three major forces.

Lin Yun remained silent for a bit before nodding.

"Okay, if there is any problem, let me handle the Sky City."

Hearing Lin Yun's agreement, Harren and Jouyi both inwardly sighed in relief. Although the Azurewave Sword Saint was publicly in charge, the main actors behind the scenes were the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower.

The war decisions were ultimately made between these two forces.

After the issue of cooperation was settled, Harren glanced at Jouyi and remained silent.

Jouyi smiled with a calm expression as if he was expecting this.

"Alright, let's end it here. Sir Harren and I feel reassured since Sir Mafa agreed. There is just one more matter we would like Sir Mafa's opinion for."

Lin Yun slightly froze.

"There is something else?"

Jouyi waved his arm.

"This matter isn't urgent... After the conquest of the Raging Flame Plane is settled and we return to Noscent, there will be a grand meeting in the Odin Kingdom that will include all the Kingdoms of Noscent. I hope Sir Mafa can participate in this meeting with us.

"But it is still early for this matter. We can discuss this after we settle the matters of the Raging Flame Plane."

Lin Yun nodded and stood up to leave.

"Well, in that case... Sir Jouyi, Sir Harren, I'll start my preparations."

After leaving the meeting room, Lin Yun was pondering on how best to increase his subordinates' power.

The materials collected from the Ancient Poison Dragon were almost fully treated, and they only needed to be transformed into tangible strength.

After reaching the camp, he directly went to Reina.

Reina had already fused with the Ancient Poison Dragon's empty Dragon Crystal, and her transformation was very clear.

When she walked, her body would continuously emit ice crystals that would shatter into smaller glittering fragments of ice before disappearing.

No matter where she walked, the surrounding temperature would quickly drop, and a large amount of ice would condense under her feet whenever she took a step. She wouldn't even touch the ground directly.

Even within ten meters, the ground would slowly be covered in a layer of frost.

Although her aura hadn't increased by much, her life essence had been refined, and it would show during battle. Her fighting power had gone through a qualitative improvement.

Once the fusion with the Ancient Poison Dragon's Crystal was completed, Reina would definitely advance to the Heaven Rank!

Because every Ancient Poison Dragon was at the Heaven Rank.

Even if it was just an empty shell, the fusion with that Dragon Crystal would make Reina's life essence undergo a shocking transformation.

As Reina stood out, not a single person would dare to approach within ten meters, unless they were asking for trouble.

Aside from Xiuban...

Xiuban's skin was red like a prawn and was continuously emitting steam. His eyes were completely red, and it felt as if he was breathing out fire.

Even with his constitution, fusing with a drop of the heart's blood was already unbearable. His body seemed to be always burning, and if he hadn't fused with a drop of Three-Headed Golden Dragon Blood before, he would have already exploded.

At this time, Xiuban was closely following behind Reina with red eyes. Wherever Reina went, he would follow. Reina's body was emitting a terrifying chill, but it didn't bother Xiuban.

Each time Xiuban couldn't help approaching within three meters of Reina, those continuously converging and shattering ice fragments would take the initiative to attack him. When they fell on Xiuban's body, they would freeze a large swathe of his skin before instantly turning into steam. It would quickly make his body temperature plummet, freezing his body, and Xiuban would stop moving.

But when Reina moved a bit further away, Xiuban would once again break out of the ice and shamelessly chase after her.

A cold expression could be seen on Reina's face, and it felt like she wanted to choke Xiuban but was forcing herself to resist the urge. She could only keep walking away while Xiuban kept repeating the process of being frozen, breaking out of the ice, and chasing after her.

When he noticed that Lin Yun was back, Xiuban pounced over with a miserable howl. "Sir Merlin! Help... I feel as if I'm about to explode! I'm dying, I'm almost dead, please help me, Sir Merlin, I am your most loyal servant, I don't want to die! Where could you find anyone as loyal as me if I died! Please give me a dozen Health Potions..."

Lin Yun ignored Xiuban and casually cast three Freeze spells at him, turning Xiuban into a block of ice cube before walking towards the camp.

This greedy and lazy Draconic Beastman would never miss an opportunity to beg for more things that could help him.

An oppressive mana fluctuation filled the depths of the camp, and for a moment, it felt as if the mana fluctuations were trapped there.

There was a huge, open cauldron in the middle, and on a table next to it was a three-meter-long piece of meat that seemed to have just been cut up. That was the flesh of the Ancient Poison Dragon.

A rich medicinal smell came from the cauldron. The alchemy puppet was holding a sharp knife and was tirelessly slicing pieces of the Dragon's flesh and putting it into the cauldron.

This was Lin Yun's medicinal setup. It was used to neutralize the Ancient Poison Dragon's toxicity, but it could bring out the useful effects of the toxins.

Moreover, the flesh of the Ancient Poison Dragon contained a large amount of energy, and this wasn't ordinary energy. It was a kind that could change the innate characteristics of the human body and allow their life essence to evolve.

After all, Ancient Poison Dragons were living during the Era of Gods and were innate Heaven Rank lifeforms. They were terrifying, tyrannical existences back then.

Their lifeforce was naturally at the Heaven Rank and even surpassed it... Therefore, their flesh was a huge tonic to mankind, a tonic that boosted one's life.

From the Era of Gods until the current era, skipping across the Nesser Dynasty and the 3rd Dynasty...

Time and time again, the overall power of Noscent seemed to lower. The lifeforms and the levels of life essences were far inferior to the previous era.

Ancient Poison Dragons were innately toxic and were likely the most poisonous existences under the heavens. As long as the toxins weren't removed, nothing could rot their flesh.

This Ancient Poison Dragon seemed to have experienced a bitter battle before ultimately being killed, its heart smashed to pieces. Its mana had also faded away over the years, but it was innately very toxic, which later on created the entire Poison Mist Valley.

Thus, time couldn't make this Ancient Poison Dragon's corpse rot. After the toxins were removed, Lin Yun kept making his subordinates eat this medicine. Even those three cousins of the Merlin Family were brought over by Lin Yun to taste the Ancient Poison Dragon's flesh.

Chapter 835: Preparations

For the past few days, Xiuban had been fusing with the blood drop of the Ancient Poison Dragon's heart, while the fifty High Mages kept devouring its flesh.

Their magical talent had greatly changed from when they absorbed some of the aura emitted by the God Soul Fragment, but their bodies' innate essence hadn't changed too much.

After all, these fifty High Mages had only been Mages when they were discarded by the Merlin Family. They were poor souls with no hope of advancing to the Great Mage realm.

They were flawed both in mind and body. Now that they were devouring the flesh of the Ancient Poison Dragon, the fifty High Mages were like painfully built Swordsmen.

All their bodies were in some sort of reddened state as if there was a furnace constantly burning within them.

The flesh processed by Lin Yun, combined with the cauldron of medicine, had turned into some sort of transparent crystal that would immediately turn into scalding hot water after being devoured. They had to keep meditating to cleanse every corner of their bodies.

The surging mana fluctuations transformed into a storm that wreaked havoc through the camp, and the activity of the elements was comparable to a volcano on the verge of eruption.

If Lin Yun hadn't prepared an array early on to bind the mana fluctuations to the depths of the camp, many people within the Storm Fort would have already become aware of the situation.

With the continuous meditation, the ranks of these High Mages rapidly increased. As their life essence was refined, their power would passively increase. After all, their mana accumulation had reached the limits of their current ranks long ago under Lin Yun's boundless supply.

The Natural Demiplane's rich mana had never been restricted to those High Mages.

In that place, there were always High Mages standing up after having recovered from the redness. They wouldn't say a word as they walked right back to the cauldron to swallow another piece of the Dragon's flesh. Their mana would then become agitated and their skin would look as if it was dripping blood, and at that time, they would return to continue their meditation.

The Merlin Family's three cousins were meditating like crazy. Each time they devoured pieces of the Ancient Poison Dragon's flesh, they would keep eating it until they could no longer handle it, and only then would they start their meditation. Their strength was also rising at a steady pace.

They kept at it for several days, and every day Lin Yun would add a drop of Ancient Poison Dragon's blood into that medicine cauldron.

The weakest among that group of High Mages was already at the 8th Rank, while the strongest one was already on the verge of breaking through to the Archmage realm.

Lin Yun walked over when he suddenly felt the originally very active elemental forces crazily converging in one direction.

A peak 9th Rank High Mage had a very red complexion. Sweat was already drenching his clothes, and his mana was emitting clear ripples as it spread in the surroundings.

But the surrounding elements were frantically gathering towards him, forming a whirlpool similar to a flame tornado above his head that spewed flames towards him.

A trace of happiness flashed in Lin Yun's eyes.

"Someone finally advanced to the Archmage realm..."

Lin Yun had racked his brain often. Ever since he received those fifty Mages, he had used every single method at his disposal to increase their strength.

Later on, when their talents evolved, Lin Yun made the firm decision to properly nurture them into important followers.

Even later, Lin Yun thought of giving them a Mana Baptism Potion that only he could compound, but because of the scarcity of the materials, he had no choice but to give up on that.

Later, their power kept increasing, from the Great Mage realm until the High Mage realm, where the Mana Baptism potion would already be ineffective.

At that time, they were only hoping to reach the Archmage realm, but not all of them had high hopes, and either way, they would need to spend a long time.

But it was different now... They saw one of them reaching the Archmage realm, and even Lin Yun couldn't help being moved.

After all, these fifty were very important followers.

Lin Yun was very powerful. His Magic Conducting Rune was the Magic Array, the strongest Magic Conducting Rune, and he had three Core Meditation Law Sets. This was definitely the strongest setup in the future Noscent that he had come from.

But he was only one person in the end. The power of one person could represent a force, but looking at the thousands upon thousands of years in the future, all those who could do that had gone through countless hardships and could only be counted on one hand.

If there was a war, it would be a lot easier with followers. Moreover, many things could be easily dealt with by followers.

After fusing with the empty Dragon Crystal, if all went as expected, Reina would definitely advance to the Heaven Rank and become an Extraordinary powerhouse. But Reina was following him in order to revive her father. No one knew what she would do afterwards.

The greedy and foolish Xiuban was actually a surprisingly talented Draconic Beastman, and he had first fused with a drop of Three-Headed Golden Dragon Blood, bathed in Ancient God Blood, and was now fusing with a drop of blood from an Ancient Poison Dragon's heart. His body had already transformed in a monstrous way, and his power was already stronger than a Dragon in its Human Shape.

This fool with an underused brain could be used as a hired thug and a meat shield, but he couldn't be relied on for anything needing a bit of thinking.

Seeing the first Archmage he had personally nurtured finish the fusion with his Magic Conducting Rune, Lin Yun's mood was a lot better.

After a few minutes, that Archmage finally stepped out of the flames he had been shrouded in, and the crimson flames automatically parted. Like self-conscious fairies, they revolved around his body, acting like a flaming storm.

And the appearance of the first Archmage seemed to have ignited a chain reaction. The next moment, three more people broke through the boundary and started advancing to the Archmage realm.

Lin Yun looked for a moment and noticed that there was no danger and that he didn't have to worry, as their advancement was very smooth.

'Unfortunately, they are all mages, they can't form the Poison Resistant Body like Xiuban...'

As he thought about it, Lin Yun turned and left. He found Xiuban still chasing Reina and casually cast three Freezing Rays at him before taking out a black potion. Lin Yun carefully controlled the black potion with mana and covered every square of Xiuban's body with it.

Countless ink-like things kept wriggling on Xiuban's body like living animals before they suddenly drilled into his body. Slowly, Xiuban's skin turned dark green and runes kept appearing on his skin. After several minutes, Xiuban's skin slowly returned to normal.

This was to transform Xiuban's body into the Poison Resistant Body, giving him a constitution that could be immune to countless poisons. Apart from poison from Ancient Poison Dragons themselves, no other poison could threaten Xiuban's life. He would be slightly affected at most. Ordinary poisons and poison spells would be completely worthless in front of Xiuban.

Unfortunately, that constitution was only suitable for swordsmen and other non-magical occupations. It would create great mana disturbance after using it, so if a mage tried it, it could cripple half of their strength. The gains wouldn't make up for the losses.

But it was ideal for someone like Xiuban that didn't need to use mana.

Lin Yun left once the potion completely permeated Xiuban's body. Behind him, Xiuban melted out of the ice and started frantically rolling on the ground while crazily screaming.

How could one not pay a price when obtaining such great benefits?

Three days passed, and the time of the general attack arrived. During this time, Lin Yun's three cousins all advanced to the 2nd Rank of the Archmage realm. Reina had already completed the initial fusion with the empty Dragon Crystal, and the cold air leaking from her body had diminished.

Xiuban had also successfully fused with the drop of blood, and the Poison Resistant Body had been formed. His strength had directly broken through to the 5th Rank of the Sword Saint realm, but the power was so great that Xiuban couldn't understand it.

Carnage, which weighed several thousand kilograms, felt as light as a feather in his hand.

Lin Yun looked at the group of people gathered in front of him and pondered how to maximize the effects of the things gathered from the Ancient Poison Dragon.

A pile of magic staves flew towards the fifty High Mages.

These magic staves were black and covered with detailed veined patterns that looked just like tiny dragon scales assembled together. At the peak of each staff was a Dragon's head with a long snout holding a flaming spirit mana crystal.

"These are the new staves I prepared for you. Get familiar with them as soon as possible. Although they are Low Grade Spiritual Magic Tools, they can compare with the most powerful Spiritual Magic Tools in terms of power."

Lin Yun didn't explain everything. These staves used some of the scales of the Ancient Poison Dragon, as well as other materials.

Although the Ancient Poison Dragons were completely poisonous and used poison spells, once the toxins were removed, these materials could inherently combine with other elements and add some effects.

After embedding a fire spirit mana crystal, the effects towards fire spells would be maximized.

When coordinated with these fifty High Mages' Blazing Storm, they would become their enemies' nightmare on the battlefield.

Apart from his fifty subordinates, Lin Yun also took out three staves without any mana crystals embedded in them and handed them to the three Merlin cousins.

"Those are the same kinds of staves, but they have no mana crystals embedded within. If you find or already have something that you think is suitable, you can embed it yourselves, I've already left a good spot."

The three of them were stunned by Lin Yun's words.

'Damn, I don't know what that meat was, but eating it directly improved my strength, and even my constitution was altered.'

'Now, he took out fifty Spiritual Magic Tools at once... Even if they are of the lowest grade, they are still Spiritual Magic Tools!'

'This looks like a wand built out of metal, but it has nearly perfect mana conductivity. It can even converge elemental power automatically, saving half of the user's strength when casting.'

'Not to mention those fifty spirit mana crystals... Those are spirit mana crystals!'

'Where did he find fifty spirit mana crystals? He would have needed to kill fifty magic beasts at or above level 30, and all of them had to be flame magic beasts.'

'Damn, did Mafa secretly purge a small plane?'

Chapter 836: Effortlessly

The three cousins felt dizzy. They were in disbelief over the things happening in the past few days. They had reached this step so easily and they were at least a few dozen times stronger than they were a few days ago.

They progressed as much in a few days as they would in twenty years...

It wasn't just the three Merlins. The fifty mages were also stunned while holding their staves. These past few days felt like a dream. They had advanced to the Archmage realm and felt like they were walking on clouds. They couldn't believe that advancing to the Archmage realm had been so easy.

Xiuban kept rubbing his palms together as he watched Lin Yun distributing magic staves from the side. Seeing that everyone received a staff, he went over with a calm expression and a flattering look.

"Sir Merlin, err, you see... Carnage is really too light now, could you give me a heavier weapon? I am your most faithful servant as well as your most important guard. If someone wanted to harm you but I didn't possess a suitable weapon, how could I protect you?"

Lin Yun raised an eyebrow as he glanced at Xiuban, while Enderfa sneered.

"You fool, who was weeping and wailing not to increase his strength two days ago?"

Xiuban shamelessly laughed and acted as if he hadn't heard that. He kept his flattering smile as he held Carnage with one hand and casually swung it twice as if it weighed nothing.

"Slam, slam!"

Those casual movements blew the air away and created two air blasts with terrifying power.

Xiuban casually put Carnage down, and a creaking sound echoed as cracks started spreading on the ground. Everyone could see how frighteningly heavy Carnage was.

This kind of monstrous power made everyone's eyelids twitch when they saw it, but Xiuban still looked dissatisfied.

Lin Yun chuckled, and with a wave of his hand, a huge sledgehammer over two meters tall appeared. The handle of the sledgehammer was made out of a tooth of the Ancient Poison Dragon, which was 2.5 meters long.

As for the head of the hammer, it looked like a huge rock with a diameter of 1.5 meters.

This was made using a large amount of material as well as one of the Ancient Poison Dragon's jaw bones, which weighed a bit under 20,000kg by itself. With the layering array, the hammerhead reached close to 40,000 kg.

This frightening weight, as well as the incredibly sturdy jaw bone, made the destructive power reach a frightening degree. One swing would tear a body apart and crush all the bones.

Xiuban's eyes shone as he rushed over. He put both hands onto the shaft and let out a roar as he lifted the new Carnage and rested it on his shoulder.

In an instant, the earth under Xiuban's feet became unable to support this frightening weight, and cracks started appearing as Xiuban's legs sank into the ground.

Every single step would leave a visible, three-finger-deep footprint on the ground.

Seeing that everyone had received their weapons, Lin Yun waved his hands and led them all out of the camp.

All the forces had finished converging at the Storm Fort and the Azurewave Sword Saint was personally leading the army. With a wave of his hand, the army left the Storm Fort and set out for the hinterlands controlled by the Raging Flame Beastmen.

...

At the same time, on the other side of the Raging Flame Plane, mana fluctuations suddenly surged on a flat plain. The terrifying mana fluctuations turned into a gale that wreaked havoc for several kilometers.

A large array spreading over three hundred meters suddenly lit up, and abstruse patterns started shining.

Within that soaring light, fully armed shadows walked out one after another as a majestic army appeared from this large-scale array.

Besides the Swordsmen wearing heavy armor, there were still a large number of mages coming out one by one and emitting their mana fluctuations.

These were the troops of the Odin Kingdom. The overall aura was somewhat stronger than the Andlusa Kingdom.

...

On the other side, the Andlusa Kingdom's troops weren't concealing that they were going towards the Raging Flame Beastmen's hinterland.

At that time, they met a few Raging Flame Beastmen, but they weren't very powerful. The ruthless mages tore them apart the moment they appeared in order to add to their contribution scores.

None of the Raging Flame Beastmen could resist the allied army, and they quickly reached the territory controlled by one of the Raging Flame Beastmen's forts.

That Sentry Fort was the first front line of the Beastmen against mankind and had a very important role. It was like a lookout post always watching mankind's movements. It was as important to the Raging Flame Beastmen as the Storm Fort was to the Andlusa Kingdom.

Losing it would mean that the Raging Flame Beastmen would lose over a hundred kilometers of territory.

When they reached the Sentry Fort, the Andlusa Kingdom's forces rushed forwards like hungry wolves.

Countless spells soared through the air towards the Sentry Fort. In barely thirty seconds, the gate of the Sentry Fort was blasted into pieces.

All the Raging Flame Beastmen were torn apart with no chance to resist.

After all, a large part of the Andlusa Kingdom's forces were gathered there. The seven major forces had sent all the manpower they could spare, and many of the smaller forces had mobilized all their manpower for this large bet.

As long as they could beat the Odin Kingdom, they would make up for at least twice their losses.

Thus, in the face of this kind of power, the Raging Flame Beastmen's important Sentry Fort barely lasted a dozen minutes before being breached, and it took half an hour for the Raging Flame Beastmen to completely fall into disarray.

Seeing this situation, Lin Yun didn't make any moves himself. Instead, he dispatched his fifty subordinates to participate in the assault of the Sentry Fort.

After an hour, the Sentry Fort was completely occupied by the Andlusa Kingdom's allied army.

After occupying the Sentry Fort, the leaders of the forces took out their crystal balls and started checking their scores.

"My people killed over fifty Raging Flame Beastmen, two of which were captains, and I obtained 360 points. Added to the ones we killed on the way, I have a total of 400 points. Sure enough, those ordinary Raging Flame Beastmen aren't that good for increasing points..."

"Yeah, those ordinary Raging Flame Beastman Warriors only give one or two points when killed. It might have increased that much only because we breached the Sentry Fort. This has great significance for the outcome of the war and probably gave us a few hundred points."

"It looks like killing the Raging Flame Beastman Warriors doesn't have much use. Breaching the fort is the greatest harvest..."

"Wrong, I just did some calculations. Ordinary warriors and mages didn't give many points, but I killed a 9th Rank High Warlock on my own, and it looked like it was one of the leaders. My contribution points shot by more than 500. The points gained from killing the Raging Flame Beastmen's powerhouses are very high."

"Right, I discovered a Great Warlock and found that it was only worth 3 points, but a High Warlock gave over 30 points, while a 9th Rank High Warlock is worth at least 300 points. If the target is important to the fort, it could give up to double the points..."

. . .

The leaders of all the forces had each received a crystal ball, which would record the points of their force. Any contributions made by their subordinates would be recorded as points.

After breaking through the Sentry Fort, a group of people became impatient and immediately started checking their points.

Those with many points were naturally in a cheerful mood, while those with fewer points were trying to find out how to increase their points and were rubbing their palms together, waiting for the next battle.

Lin Yun took out his crystal ball and glanced at it. His points weren't high or low: He had 700. Everyone had contributed in breaching through the Sentry Fort so the points for that had been parcelled out to everyone. He had so many points only because his subordinates had killed many Raging Flame Beastmen.

While everyone was happy about having made some progress, someone suddenly let out an alarmed cry. "Heavens, what's going on? Why are the points of the Odin Kingdom so much higher than ours?"

That shout splashed cold water on everyone. At that time, they discovered that the crystal ball could be used not only to look at their own points, but also to compare the sum of their points with the Odin Kingdom's.

The sum of their points naturally represented the score of the Andlusa Kingdom, but when looking, they discovered that the Odin Kingdom's points were actually 30% higher than the Andlusa Kingdom's!

They had just started the attack!

Yet the Odin Kingdom's points were already 30% higher! What did that mean? It meant that the gap between them could continue to expand! The gap in strength was too great, they simply had no hope of being victorious!

"The Odin Kingdom is too powerful, it looks like their assault was devastating and didn't give the Raging Flame Beastmen any time to resist."

"Yeah, although I knew that the Odin Kingdom was very powerful, I didn't expect that they would be so powerful... We have no hope of winning."

"We should hurry and try to get as many resources as we can before leaving. If this continues, the losses will be too great..."

Soon, the morale of the allied army that had been so high started plummeting, and they were even considering leaving. Even Lin Yun couldn't help frowning.

At this time, Harren, who was connected to someone with a crystal ball, suddenly put his crystal ball away.

"I just obtained some news. The Odin Kingdom's allied armies didn't converge. Instead, they launched separate attacks, with each of their forces acting alone and spreading out to accelerate the early stage of the attack. They swept through everything on the way and effortlessly destroyed many of the Raging Flame Beastmen's forces."

Harren's expression wasn't very good, because they hadn't expected the Odin Kingdom's actions.

They took advantage of the fact that the resistance wasn't very strong to tear their way through very quickly...

Chapter 837: Drawing Lots

Andlusa's original strategy was to work together to push towards the hinterlands in one breath, which would also reduce the losses, but it now looked like a change had to be made.

The Azurewave Sword Saint frowned and said with a heavy voice, "We have to change... We thought that since the strongest forces of the Odin Kingdom didn't take part, they wouldn't have that much manpower, so they would choose to do a joint attack like us.

"Now it looks like the Odin Kingdom's forces are powerful enough that they can advance so quickly while dispersed. We will definitely lose if this continues.

"Their offensive is faster than ours, and so is their momentum. The more we lag behind, the faster their point total will pull away from ours, and when the time comes, we won't be able to catch up.

"We must also split our forces!"

After the Azurewave Sword Saint finished, Harren and Jouyi both nodded, and the representatives of the seven forces agreed with those words. Those small and medium forces also understood that if they just continued as they'd originally planned, they would truly lose.

The decision to divide the troops was made in an instant.

At that time, no one was stupid enough to think that they should keep moving as a unit.

The Azurewave Sword Saint took out a Magic Tool, and a huge projection of a map appeared in midair. This was a map of the Raging Flame Plane with the locations of numerous Raging Flame Beastman Forts marked on it.

"Since no one is opposed to this, let us distribute the forts that everyone needs to attack."

Looking at the forts marked on the maps, someone immediately stood up.

"Our Gry Family selects the Pearl Fort."

Someone immediately followed and shouted, "Our Kuba Family also selects the Pearl Fort..."

"We choose the Molten Fort..."

"The Molten Fort!"

A group of people shouted in chaos, trying to drown each other out in the scramble to choose a fort first.

But after shouting for a while, everyone ended up mostly choosing the same forts, and more than half of them remained unselected.

None of the members of the seven major forces had chosen anything besides these few forts.

No one was foolish; the forts like the Pearl Fort and the Molten Fort were in important locations, and the contribution earned from victory would be relatively huge. Moreover, there weren't any formidable powerhouses stationed there.

There was nothing wrong with the arrangement of the Raging Flame Beastmen. Those forts were in crucial positions, blocking the entrance to their hinterland... Before the general attack, that is.

There were many forts that were surrounded and covered by other forts, so the probability of being attacked from behind was very small. Therefore, there weren't many powerhouses stationed there.

But now, the Andlusa Kingdom and the Odin Kingdom were both attacking at the same time. It was an all-out attack, and every fort was a target. There wasn't much meaning to those forts covering each other.

At the start of the attack, they were bound to obtain many points from those exposed forts. They were delicious cakes that everyone would want to devour.

Lin Yun chose the Pearl Fort because attacking that fort would cost very little energy and would bring a huge harvest. The danger was also low, so he would need very little time to finish conquering it.

But this soon turned into a noisy quarrel.

"I chose the Molten Fort first! You want to fight over it? What do you mean?"

"What do I mean? You chose the fort you want to attack, and that was your decision. I chose which fort I want to attack, and that was my decision. Could it be that I have to ask for your opinion on my course of action?"

It was naturally impossible for everyone to choose the forts that were easiest to clear out, but everyone wanted benefits. This simple conflict set every force on fire and the meeting almost boiled over right then...

Lin Yun had promptly expressed his own choice like everyone else, but he was being glared at by others.

The Gru Family's representative, Liwei Gru, was an 8th Rank Archmage and was now glaring daggers at Lin Yun while pondering.

'Damn, the Merlin Family is the weakest of the seven major forces, yet they dare to send such a young Commander... And I heard that he only brought about fifty people. With that number of people, does he still plan on getting benefits as one of the seven major forces?

'Sir Jouyi and Sir Harren didn't fight over the Pearl Fort with me... You're the only one among the seven major forces that did! Could it be that you think our Gru Family is easy to bully?

'Damn Mafa Merlin, if not for you, the Pearl Fort would have been our Gru Family's.

'Although our Gru Family can't compare to the major forces, it is the peak force below the seven major forces. You want to compete with me when you have so few people and you only just became an Archmage?

'Everyone is quarrelling, but no one is setting themselves against the seven major forces. The Cloud Tower, the Black Tower, the Watson Family, the Charlotte Family...

'These forces aren't easy to push around, and their representatives are famous powerhouses. No one would dare to freely provoke them. But the Commander of the Merlin Family is the youngest and barely looks to be over twenty. It's even said that it's been less than a year since he advanced to the Archmage realm. Someone has to rise against him...'

Liwei stood up and pointed at Lin Yun while feeling indignant.

"Mafa Merlin, are you targeting our Gru Family? Are you trying to bully os? We chose the Pearl Fort and you immediately chose the Pearl Fort, isn't that plain bullying?"

Lin Yun slightly glanced at Liwei.

"I only expressed my opinion, what's the problem? Do you mean that because your Gru Family chose, I have to make way for you? Or that only you can choose but I can't?"

Liwei angrily stomped his foot and pointed at Lin Yun.

"Sh*t, I know your Merlin Family just wants to take advantage of us! This is blatant suppression, you just don't want our Gru Family to accumulate any points!"

Liwei directly claimed that a member of the seven forces was suppressing them. When the seven major forces chose their targets, they all chose different forts, and all of them were easy targets that would give plenty of points.

It's just that Liwei was facing Lin Yun and decided to fight back....

Others paused at Liwei's words and couldn't help thinking about this matter. This time, among the major forces participating, the Merlin Family's power seemed to be the weakest.

Lin Yun's fifty subordinates barely made an appearance. Everyone only knew that the Merlin Family had about fifty people there, and everyone knew that the Merlin Family's Commander was extremely young. They were even laughing at the fact that Thorne Merlin seemed to have refused to obey him.

Lin Yun slowly turned his head and took a long look at Liwei before squinting.

"I really hate it when others point their fingers at me."

Jouyi's eyelid twitched... He knew too well how violent that amiable young mage could become. He might not go as far as killing Liwei on the spot, but he might cripple him without a second thought.

Jouvi blinked at the Azurewave Sword Saint.

Immediately, the silent Azurewave Sword Saint slammed the table, and a loud sound echoed, shutting the mouths of everyone within the meeting room.

"Silence!"

The Azurewave Sword Saint was emitting a dangerous aura. It felt like they were stared at by a falcon before it dove down at them.

"Do you see what you are doing? Sh*t, have you forgotten the current situation? Open your eyes and check the points within the crystal ball! Do you see how many points the Odin Kingdom gained while you were arguing like kids on a playground?

"Don't forget that the prerequisite to get any harvest at all is to win against the Odin Kingdom. Your argument is worthless if we lose! Why are you fighting now? Win this bet first if you want to argue!"

The Azurewave Sword Saint's burst of anger silenced everyone. No one dared to retort. Feeling the ice-cold killing intent emitted by the Azurewave Sword Saint, they all knew that anyone that dared to hold them back would end up dead.

After the Azurewave Sword Saint finished speaking, Harren casually said, "Since this is causing issues, we might as well draw lots. That is simple and fair. Whatever you get will be up to fate."

After saying that, Harren threw a crystal ball on top of the map, and then, the forts indicated on the map turned into fragments and entered the crystal ball.

"Everyone, come and pour your mana in to draw lots. Everyone knows about Good Luck Crystal Balls, right? What fort each person draws is completely up to fate."

Harren took the lead in pouring mana into the crystal ball, and the names of all the forts began to rapidly flash across it, along with their locations.

These names were flashing in a completely random order. On occasion some forts could flash two or three times in a row, or not show up at all for a while.

After Harren's wisp of mana was consumed, the name appearing within the crystal ball slowly stopped on the name of the Boulder Fort.

That was a troublesome one... The Boulder Fort was akin to a boulder that had stood tall for countless years without ever falling. Its defenses were very strong, and there was a 9th Rank Arch-Warlock within. It was like a nail firmly planted in the Raging Flame Beastman territory. Its offensive capabilities weren't very good, but its defensive power was at the top three among the Raging Flame Beastman Forts.

Harren casually glanced at it but didn't care.

And the fact that Harren drew one of the most difficult targets first made the doubts in others' minds naturally disappear.

Chapter 838: Swap

After all, if Harren could pull some tricks here, he absolutely wouldn't have chosen this troublesome fort.

The leaders of every force came forward and kept drawing lots to decide which fort they had to attack.

Those with a good draw would naturally be happy, and those who drew forts expected to yield huge numbers of points with minimal risk, like the Pearl Fort, couldn't help beaming with joy.

And of course, those who got troublesome forts that wouldn't give too many points naturally wouldn't have good expressions.

Lin Yun drew the Hope Fort. It wasn't regarded as very difficult, but it also had some powerhouses stationed there. Moreover, the Hope Fort didn't have a particularly large impact on the war situation. The points obtained from attacking it wouldn't be very high, but they also wouldn't be too lacking.

In any case, the choice was set in stone now. It couldn't be considered the best, but it wasn't bad... It was a decent draw.

Lin Yun felt that his luck wasn't too bad. After all, there were so many people here, and there were few forts that were both easy to attack and worth a lot of points. Wanting to draw one of those wasn't easy.

At this time, Liwei Gru went up for his drawing. The forts' names rapidly appeared within the crystal ball before finally stopping on a radiant name and location.

Liwei's expression suddenly became almost as black as ink.

Everyone around also smirked as they looked at Liwei.

Liwei turned, and when he saw Lin Yun's calm expression, he immediately got angry. He fiercely slammed the desk and loudly shouted as he stood up, "I don't accept it, there is definitely something shady going on! It's shady!"

Everyone was shocked as they saw Liwei act like this. They knew very well that the draws were just a matter of luck. That Good Luck Crystal Ball couldn't be fraudulent, and it was all decided according to the array.

Everyone could see the array on the surface and no one was blind. Wouldn't someone have noticed if there was a change in that alchemy array? Moreover, if there were a slight change in the array, it would end up failing and wouldn't operate.

'Sir Harren has drawn the fort with the strongest defense! How could it be shady?'

Liwei clenched his teeth and pointed at Lin Yun.

"I don't accept it! There must be something shady here, it's definitely you, damn Mafa Merlin! I know you are retaliating against me! Why is it that so many people have drawn already, but only I got this kind of rotten draw?

"The Boulder Fort might have powerful defenses, but their ability to counterattacking is limited. It would be no trouble for Sir Harren and the Black Tower, and they would just get a lot of points from there.

"Why has no one else gotten such a poor draw apart from me? Why has the Merlin Family gotten one of the better forts when I got one of the worst ones??

"There must be something shady going on! You are retaliating against me so that my Gru Family suffers disastrous losses at the Radiant Fort!"

Liwei gritted his teeth as he pointed at Lin Yun, angrily throwing out accusations.

Lin Yun frowned as he indifferently replied, "Something like the Good Luck Crystal Ball can't be interfered with... This is common sense, I shouldn't have to teach you this, should I? This is all up to one's luck, you can only blame your luck."

Liwei gnashed his teeth as he continued glaring with an unyielding attitude.

"Do you think I don't know that you are an alchemist? You were so close to it, so you must have pulled a trick. Do you think I don't know that you are close friends with Sir Jouyi and Sir Harren? That day, when we left, you stayed behind with them!

"Whatever trick you used, Sir Harren must have helped you. You want to retaliate against me and use this opportunity to make our Gru Family suffer a heavy loss!"

As Liwei said those words, Jouri and Harren both looked very displeased.

They could accept some things being called into question, but this kind of random accusation was very serious. It was directly questioning their moral standing, and more importantly, it was calling into question how the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower handled their own allies.

This was a serious accusation. Even though it was against Lin Yun, it implicated both the Black Tower and the Cloud Tower.

Lin Yun frowned, his eyes slightly narrowing. If Xiuban saw this, he would have clearly noticed that Lin Yun was a bit angry.

The onlookers were looking at Liwei as if he was an idiot, and even those who usually had a good relationship with him took their distance.

'That damned guy, did he go insane? Criticizing Mafa Merlin is fine... After all, the Merlin Family only brought a few people and don't have a famous powerhouse overseeing them.

'But he actually involved Sir Jouyi and Sir Harren questioned their moral character! He dared to attack the reputation of the Andlusa Kingdom's two strongest forces?

'Offending three of the seven major forces at once, and the two most powerful ones, at that...'

Liwei went for broke. His mind was filled by the feeling of being tricked. If he attacked the Radiant Fort, whether he could win or not wasn't certain, and even if he won, he would lose at least half of his troops. The losses would be so great that he simply wouldn't be able to obtain any more points in the rest of the general attack.

Even if they won against the Odin Kingdom, the Gru Family wouldn't gain much when they split the harvest. In the end, they would inevitably obtain some remote territories with very few resources.

Just as people some people approached to try to persuade Liwei, Liwei said something that made them back off.

"If you want to prove that you didn't pull any tricks, then you should swap your Hope Fort with my Radiant Fort! If you are unwilling, that'll only prove that you did something in order to deal with my Gru Family!"

Not only did Jouyi and Harren's expressions change after hearing those words, but even the Azurewave Sword Saint's face darkened as he looked at Liwei with a terrible expression.

In an instant, a large area was opened around Liwei, and those that had wanted to persuade him also got somewhat angry.

'F*cking hell, does that moron Liwei not know what he is doing? This is breaking the rules! Is he planning on destroying the rules completely?

'Don't you see what time it is? The Odin Kingdom is getting more and more points while he is making trouble and wasting time! Are you a spy trying to drag us down?

You got a bad draw, but do you see us accusing others of pulling tricks when we got a bad draw? Do you think Sir Harren mellowed out after becoming the Chairman of the Black Tower?

'Don't you see who you're questioning? You called out Sir Harren! Have you forgotten how fierce Sir Harren is?

'You actually accused Sir Harren of pulling a trick in front of the strictest powerhouse, the Azurewave Prince. You think the Azurewave Prince would turn a blind eye to it? Do you think someone could try something like that in front of the Azurewave Prince?

'Who are you trying to sell that to? This is an insult to our intelligence!'

Liwei's words were very improper and angered everyone.

"Liwei, are you questioning our intelligence?"

"Are you really trying to break the rules and buy time for the Odin Kingdom?"

"Damnit, Liwei, forget about that filthy train of thought and immediately apologize..."

Lin Yun looked coldly at Liwei. He didn't even feel like getting rid of this idiot... he felt like going that far for a moron would lower his own intelligence.

Harren frowned as he looked at Liwei before saying indifferently, "Liwei, I didn't understand what you just said, can you repeat your words for me?"

Jouyi and the Azurewave Sword Saint were familiar with Harren, and when they heard those words, they knew that Harren was already furious and that this was the last chance he was giving to Liwei.

No one expected Liwei to actually grit his teeth and shamelessly persist.

"I won't accept it unless Mafa Merlin swaps his Hope Fort with my Radiant Fort, I won't believe that he didn't pull a trick otherwise! A trick targeting my Gru Family!"

Lin Yun was enraged but remained seated on the chair, looking at Liwei in silence. Suddenly, the Azurewave Sword Saint stood up.

The Azurewave Sword Saint had an ice-cold aura as he looked down at Liwei. His voice was filled with dissatisfaction as he said, "Liwei, I'll tell you this with my identity as a Commander of the Andlusa Kingdom... You can now f*ck back off to Noscent! Damn trash, take your Gru Family and immediately leave the Raging Flame Plane! If there is still a member of your Gru Family in the Raging Flame Plane tomorrow... Don't blame me for not having reminded you!"

The Azurewave Sword Saint's voice was full of rage as he directly dismissed Liwei Gru. There was no punishment as big as kicking the Gru Family out of the Raging Flame Plane.

Liwei felt as if a basin of cold water had been splashed over his face. He instantly calmed down and started panicking.

But at this time, Lin Yun, who had remained silent so far, decided to intervene. "Since you want to swap, then let's swap."

Everyone was astonished at Lin Yun's words. Even the Azurewave Sword Saint's inscrutable face couldn't help showing a tinge of surprise.

As for Liwei, he was exulting and beaming with joy as he promptly shouted, "Those are your words, no one forced you!

"Everyone heard it, it was agreed to by Mafa Merlin himself, the Hope Fort is now the Gru Family's target while the Radiant Fort is Mafa Merlin's!"

Chapter 839: Radiant Fort

Liwei looked ecstatic about the sudden change in fortune and couldn't help rubbing his hands together.

'I know that the Merlin Family only brought a few dozen people, and I don't know what method that Mafa Merlin used to become the Commander of the Merlin Family, but I knew that as long as I persisted, he would definitely yield.

'Now that this Mafa Merlin has agreed, the Azurewave Prince won't punish our Gru Family and will just leave the Hope Fort to our Gru Family's hands.

'This Mafa Merlin had good foresight to choose this place... Although the Hope Fort can't compare to the Pearl Fort and those other ones, it is second only to them.

'It wouldn't be very troublesome to attack and would yield a lot of points. More importantly, if planned well, the Hope Fort could be taken in one attack. With the time saved, the Gru Family could quickly obtain more points.

'As for the Radiant Fort, well... This Mafa Merlin must have tampered with the draws, or he wouldn't have given up and swapped with me. Now, he is going to get pricked by the thorns he prepared for me! The Radiant Fort is a hard bone to chew, and now Mafa Merlin is the one that has to chew on it.

'It would be best if all the people of the Merlin Family die there, along with Mafa Merlin!'

As Liwei was celebrating, a wisp of mockery flashed in Lin Yun's eyes and he said, "Don't blame me for reminding you that those who don't follow rules won't have a good outcome."

Liwei sneered and completely ignored that sentence and its meaning. He only felt that Mafa Merlin was trying not to admit his mistake.

As the curtain was pulled over this farce, the Azurewave Sword Saint seemed quite displeased as he looked at Liwei Gru, but he had a whole new level of respect for Lin Yun. After all, this scuffle was taking up their time, and the more time they lost, the more the Andlusa Kingdom lost. Lin Yun helped them move on from this.

All the targets had been assigned, and the next step was to divide the troops.

After leaving the meeting room, Zeuss came over with an indignant expression.

"Mafa Merlin, why have you agreed to that foolish Liwei's requirements? This is too much! That damn b*stard should have been punished by the Azurewave Prince, their family should have been punished! They are becoming more and more excessive lately, are they planning on challenging the might of our seven forces?"

Zeuss was furious, and he immediately talked about getting rid of Liwei.

Lin Yun smiled and pacified the indignant Zeuss.

"Alright, Sir Zeuss, time waits for no one. The Odin Kingdom won't stay and wait for us to finish dealing with our internal issues. Swapping with him is nothing if that makes an unstable element within the Andlusa Kingdom disappear

"Who knows, maybe he will attack even more actively after the swap and slightly accelerate the attack of the Andlusa Kingdom, making our points catch up to the Odin Kingdom faster.

"After all, we have common interests. Everyone will be affected if we lose to the Odin Kingdom. We would lose the Raging Flame Plane! That isn't something I can accept, so I can just let this go."

Zeuss looked at Lin Yun with open admiration.

"If that fool, Liwei, had just one tenth of your wisdom and aspirations, something like this wouldn't have happened."

In front of Zeuss' compliments, Lin Yun only left with a smile on his face.

He turned to look at Liwei's back and called him a moron in his mind.

At first, he only felt that the name Radiant Fort sounded familiar, but that was the case... He did have some impression of it.

As someone that came back from the final era, he wouldn't exchange a fort worth a lot of points for a hard bone for no reason.

Were it not for the fact that he knew there should be something there, why would he swap with an idiot like Liwei? There was no reason for that kind of thing to happen.

No one understood why Lin Yun would compromise and do the swap.

Only Harren and Jouyi felt that things weren't that simple, but they weren't sure about what possibilities there were.

Even if someone saw Lin Yun's smile, they would only think that Lin Yun might have relented to help the Andlusa Kingdom's general situation by getting the idiot to stop wasting time and affecting the unity and morale of the allied army.

No one thought Lin Yun had another plan...

The next day, the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower joined hands in order to complete a large-scale teleportation array.

With this large-scale teleportation array, they could teleport anyone in the Raging Flame Plane as long as they knew the coordinates with no need for support arrays.

Ordinary teleportation arrays needed two arrays linked together in order to increase range and stability. When an array started operating, the other array would be in charge of reception.

This kind of large-scale array could be used to cross very long distances in circumstances where paired arrays wouldn't be ideal, like the current circumstances.

Those forts were densely located in the hinterland controlled by the Raging Flame Beastmen, so there was simply no way to set up reception arrays. They could only use a large-scale teleportation array to directly send people to their destinations.

They could use this array to teleport people to many areas within a certain range as long as there was no major disturbance.

The Andlusa Kingdom's forces were teleported to the vicinity of their targets one by one.

Lin Yun led Reina, Enderfa, the alchemy puppet, his fifty subordinates, and the three cousins of the Merlin Family to enter the teleportation array and disappear in a flash of light.

...

In another area, a few runes appeared out of nowhere, and then four runes formed a square that produced even more runes.

Suddenly, the light specific to Teleportation Arrays shone, and a huge light pillar appeared on the ground before everyone's shadows rapidly came out of the light beam.

Xiuban raised Carnage and rapidly checked out the surroundings like a dog. He was followed by the patched up alchemy puppet ready to cast a spell at any time.

Then came Lin Yun's fifty expressionless subordinates, the weakest of whom was at the 9th Rank of the High Mage realm, while the strongest was a 2nd Rank Archmage with a blazing and burning rune on their body.

They each had a red flame revolving around their body, and the fifty of them moved in the same fashion.

Even their mana showed signs of resonating. The surrounding fire elements became lively when the fifty mages appeared started shaking on their own, creating red sparks in the air.

Their rapid improvement didn't lower their fighting strength or make them complacent. Instead, because they had lost hope in the past and because of the time when they had made no progress, they were always on alert.

They immediately got ready for battle when they were teleported, and everyone's division of labor was clear-cut.

Some were preparing attack spells, some were preparing effective defensive spells, and there were some who instantly conjured a few Mage Eyes to probe the surroundings.

When Lin Yun stepped out of the Teleportation Array, he subconsciously cast a Mage Eye of his own to guard and probe. He noticed his fifty subordinates' competent actions and was very satisfied.

Even though their strength had been lacking and their talent had been poor, they had gained the opportunity to change and undergo a true transformation. They gained the attitude of powerhouses and always remained vigilant without being arrogant.

This was also Lin Yun's concern: He had been afraid that his fifty subordinates would rapidly become prideful and complacent because of their strength rising too quickly.

If this happened, their fighting effectiveness would greatly decrease, and they wouldn't be able to properly display their abilities.

But they didn't disappoint him. Even his three cousins immediately prepared proper defenses after coming out of the Teleportation Array and cast successive Detect Life spells in a few directions.

Lin Yun didn't rouse his mana at all because he completely believed that the others would be able to handle this.

He looked over in the distance and saw a flat plain. Not far from it was an ancient Beastman Fort, the Radiant Fort.

There were two rivers crossing intersecting next to the Radiant Fort, which was surrounded by a dozen wooden sentry towers. From their position, they could even see the Beastmen standing guard atop the sentry towers.

The Radiant Fort was one of the Raging Flame Beastmen's most ancient forts. It was rumored that this was the place where the light of the Raging Flame Emperor shone for the first time.

It was also the starting point for the Raging Flame Beastmen to control the Raging Flame Plane.

There was a rumor circulating in the Raging Flame Plane in the old days. The Radiant Fort had been personally established by the Raging Flame Emperor. At the time, although the temperature was chilly, it was rich in natural resources, had lush vegetation, and had very flat terrain. It was a great contributor to the Raging Flame Beastmen's reproduction.

During the process of getting the Raging Flame Plane under control, the resources of the Radiant Fort supported them little by little.

Without the food produced there, they wouldn't have been able to forge weapons and armor, and the Raging Flame Beastmen wouldn't have developed to reach their current state.

But perhaps because the Raging Flame Beastmen squeezed too much out of this place while controlling the plane, this area turned into bitter, cold earth.

Although the terrain was flat, there was no vegetation, and more than half of the land had turned into a desert. There were only some sparse plants here and there, similar to scars decorating the earth.

The Radiant Fort in the distance was only emitting a wisp of silence and decay.

Chapter 840: Black Iron Beastmen

It was precisely because the changes had been too great that the name was changed. Lin Yun hadn't reacted when he first heard the name, Radiant Fort.

But thanks to Liwei Gru's good fortune, Lin Yun had checked the map, and with the current information they possessed on the Raging Flame Beastmen, he ascertained that this bitter, cold land that only sparsely had some small beasts moving about truly was the Radiant Fort from the records, the starting point of the Raging Flame Plane.

As Lin Yun observed the surrounding terrain and the ancient fort in the distance, he felt even more certain that this was the place mentioned in the books, even if it had greatly changed.

And now, stationed here were the Black Iron Beastmen of the Raging Flame Plane.

The Black Iron Beastmen were the main reason that Liwei Gru was unwilling to attack the Radiant Fort. This definitely was one of the hardest places to handle in the Raging Flame Plane.

There were very few Black Iron Beastmen in the Radiant Fort, or it might be better to say that the Black Iron Beastmen were few in number, but they were definitely the strongest Beastman Tribes in the Raging Flame Plane.

They were few in number, but they were stronger than the average Beastman.

The Radiant Fort only had somewhere over a hundred Black Iron Beastmen stationed there, but the weakest one there was comparable to an Expert Swordsman.

If there was no mistake in the received information, there were at least a dozen Black Iron Beastmen comparable to Sword Saints!

They were born warriors and could adapt to all kinds of vile environments, and it was said that the blood of Abyssal Demons flowed within their bloodline. Thus, every single Black Iron Beastman was very powerful.

They would start their race's strictest training when they could stand on their feet. At 5, they'd be drenched in water and made to withstand the cold to train their endurance, and when they were a bit bigger, they would be trained in all kinds of environments.

After reaching adulthood, every Black Iron Beastman that underwent rigorous training would be a powerful warrior with a steel-like body, and the weakest of them would still become an Expert Swordsman. For those that were a bit gifted, advancing to the Sword Saint realm would be quite common.

So although there were only a bit over a hundred Black Iron Beastmen there, there were close to twenty Sword Saints, and eight or nine of them might be over the 5th Rank.

Moreover, they were very fierce because of their Abyssal bloodline, their fighting power was shocking, and they were unafraid of death. After undergoing strict training, their fighting power far exceeded ordinary Beastmen.

These powerful Black Iron Beastmen were arranged in the bitterly cold land of the Radiant Fort because the royal family of the Raging Flame Beastmen was unwilling to provoke them, so they left them here as if they were exiled.

There was even a vague rumor spreading in the Raging Flame Plane... Apparently, the Black Iron Beastmen had once fought against the current royal family over the position but ultimately were defeated.

Although these were parts of rumors, it also showed how formidable the Black Iron Beastmen were.

When Liwei Gru had drawn the Radiant Fort, he was like a cat whose tail had been stepped on. Others couldn't help gloating because he would have to deal with the Black Iron Beastmen.

Liwei being so unhesitant to offend Harren and Jouyi and also setting himself against Lin Yun, accusing him of plotting against the Gru Family... It wasn't without reason.

With the strength of the Gru Family, they would be able to attain some accomplishments without too many losses when facing a typical army.

But the weakest enemy at the Radiant Fort was a Black Iron Beastman Expert Swordsman, and there were quite a few Sword Saints. If Gru wanted to attack, he would lose half of his manpower, so he didn't even consider it.

After all, no one was like Lin Yun, leading a level 39 Frost Dragon, a 5th Rank Draconic Beastman Sword Saint, and an alchemy puppet comparable to a level 39 powerhouse.

Even the weakest of his fifty subordinates was a 9th Rank High Mage, and about ten of them were Archmages.

No one would believe that he had such a force with him, because whether it was the Cloud Tower or the Black Tower, or even the Andlusa Kingdom's royal family, they hadn't brought such formidable forces this time around. At least when it came to high-rank powerhouses, they couldn't compare to Lin Yun in terms of both power and quantity.

Along with Lin Yun himself, their overall fighting power had reached a point where it could directly compare to the power of the Cloud Tower and the Black Tower in the Raging Flame Plane.

And that was including Harren and Jouyi.

Lin Yun's group, the fluctuations of the Teleportation Array, as well as their own barely covered up fluctuations, were soon discovered by the Radiant Fort's Black Iron Beastmen.

The entrance to the Radiant Fort opened, and Black Iron Beastmen riding on huge black wolves over a man in height charged towards them.

All Lin Yun did was wave at his fifty subordinates.

In an instant, the fire elements condensed in the air due to excessive activity were suddenly roused.

Among his fifty, ten of them cast defensive spells, and a series of Fire Shields appeared one after another to form walls blocking ahead of them. The rest raised their Dragon Scale Staves and quickly chanted abstruse incantations.

Flames suddenly condensed into crimson Fire Dragons that tangled in the air and formed a huge flame tornado spreading over the horizon as it flew forward.

The Black Iron Beastmen bared their fangs as they drew their heavy broadswords.

Cold light flickered and a glaring light flashed as the Fire Dragon at the forefront was forcibly cut into pieces.

The resulting fragments of flames seemed like tree leaves falling onto the bodies of the Black Iron Beastmen, and they didn't even consider dodging.

The flame fragments didn't even leave marks on their skin.

There were some black magic patterns on their dark skin, which was the sign of their Abyssal bloodline. They had strong magic resistance and their bodies were extremely powerful.

It was shown even more in the Black Iron Beastmen with their sturdy Beastman physique. Their innate talent as warriors made them a group of fierce, humanoid beasts.

Just by relying on their power, they could do something unbelievable like tearing spells apart.

The first wave of Fire Dragons was quickly torn to shreds by the Black Iron Beastmen. In their minds, it was best to swing their weapons to tear their enemies to pieces. It was some sort of instinct hidden deep within their bloodline. As a result, their fearlessness and momentum would greatly increase their fighting strength while demoralizing their enemies.

As the Beastmen charged, sword lights flashed and flames shattered into sparks. The group of Black Iron Beastmen looked like demons bathing in flames.

Under such circumstances, Lin Yun still remained silent, and even Reina and the puppet didn't move. Only Xiuban rushed forward, wanting to test out his new Carnage.

Enderfa's three faces had dull expressions, but whenever he glanced at the Radiant Fort, he would mischievously laugh as if something kept coming to mind.

Xiuban rushed forward while swinging Carnage and roaring. He even ignored the flames in the air. As he charged, the surrounding flames seemed to be pushed aside by some sort of pressure, as if they were getting out of his way.

But Lin Yun knew that it was just Xiuban's body being too powerful, to the point where Xiuban could emit tangible pressure.

That power was enough to prevent Low Tier Spells from being able to reach his body. Anything below the 5th Tier would lose any effects in front of Xiuban, let alone these scattered fire elements. Even diving in a pool of lava would be no different than a bubble bath to Xiuban.

Unless he was directly hit by the combined magic attacks of the fifty mages, the temperature wouldn't affect Xiuban in the least.

Xiuban rushed at max speed, and when he was still twenty meters away, he fiercely stamped on the ground. With a loud sound, a fierce crack spread, and two ankle-deep holes were left in the ground.

As for Xiuban, he suddenly jumped up while tightly holding onto Carnage and fell straight towards the center of the Black Iron Beastmen.

He was still in the air when one of the Black Iron Beastman Sword Saints grinned and jumped from his wolf while swinging his long blade, ruthlessly slashing upward towards Xiuban as if he wanted to cut him in two.

"Damn b*stard, let me bathe in your blood!"

After shouting, his large blade let out a cold light, splitting the air apart as it slashed at Xiuban's body.

Xiuban's eyes widened and he laughed before swinging Carnage with a seemingly hurried gesture.

The Black Iron Beastman sneered and decided to meet force with force.

Enderfa chuckled and felt as if this scene was unbearable.

'Damn fool... A 3rd Rank Sword Saint actually dares to compete with strength against Xiuban? The power of the idiotic Xiuban is probably even more frightening than a Behemoth...'

Sure enough, the moment the large blade collided with Carnage, air blasted in the surroundings as if something had just exploded. The blade in that Black Iron Beastman's hands was suddenly sent flying.

Because of the huge force of the collision, or it might be more accurate to say, due to Xiuban's overwhelming strength, not only was the Beastman's sword sent flying, but he hadn't even had time to let go of his sword.

The sword went flying too quickly and shattered both of his hands. Blood splashed out, and half of his fingers had been torn apart.

And this was far from over... Xiuban's Carnage carried imposing momentum, and to the shock and despair of this Black Iron Beastman, it ruthlessly smashed into his body with a deafening impact.