

Merchant 501

Chapter 501: Promotion of Quality of Source Sand

Although its spiritual power was restored by Lin Yuan, the ability of the Insect Queen's body to produce insect protein could not only rely on the Protein Silkworm Chrysalises.

It also needed nutrients that could be absorbed from meat, blood, and even bones.

Lin Yuan had originally planned to continue channeling more spiritual power into its body.

However, because the Insect Queen's body greatly lacked the energy that could not be obtained from the Protein Silkworm Chrysalises, it had to stop the continued production of insect-species fey.

These colossal Diamond Giant Cattle, along with a group of high-grade, non-combat-class fey, would let the Insect Queen and the imperial insect swarm enjoy a good meal.

Yet, immediately after, Liu Jie abruptly came to his senses and frowned.

Based on the 400 simplified Hurricane Owlet Moths that he had previously sent, it appeared that the oncoming enemies were some of the weakest feys that he had ever detected.

There was only one possibility when such an enemy appeared, which was that the enemy would attempt to stall for time.

The other party would send these logistics personnel out to fight, which was tantamount to tempting fate.

Such behavior was enough to demonstrate the enemy's determination to fight to the death.

Lin Yuan saw that Liu Jie's expression was still changing and quickly asked, "Big Brother Liu, how is the situation?"

Liu Jie hurriedly told Lin Yuan and Zhou Luo about the situation that he had personally witnessed.

Then, Liu Jie proceeded to share his opinion on the matter.

"I plan to treat the enemy's contracted feys as the Insect Queen's nutritional base, providing it with the nutrients to continue producing insects.

"If not, as there isn't enough high-grade fey flesh now, the insects produced by the Insect Queen would not have shells with sufficient strength."

As he spoke, Liu Jie scratched his head in embarrassment.

He felt that he had been negligent as he had not expected that such a situation would arise upon his arrival in Indigo Azure City.

Under normal circumstances, besides preparing Protein Silkworm Chrysalises that would help the Insect Queen restore insect protein in the Diamond fey storage box, Liu Jie would also prepare some high-grade fey flesh for it.

Although this time was no exception, there was not enough flesh of high-grade dimensional lifeforms to sustain the production of so many insects.

This time, Liu Jie understood that in the future, there had to be at least five times or even ten times more Protein Silkworm Chrysalises and high-grade fey flesh in his Diamond fey storage box.

Only then could various dangerous situations be faced.

There would never again be a situation like the present one, when there was insufficient high-grade fey flesh.

The main reason that such a circumstance had occurred was Liu Jie's failure to consider that Lin Yuan would have such a powerful ability to restore spiritual power.

Upon hearing Liu Jie's words, Lin Yuan opened his mouth to speak. "Big Brother Liu, let me face these enemies.

"You need only be responsible for letting the insect swarm consume the feys that have sunk under the sea of sand and allowing the swarm to restore their energy."

As Lin Yuan spoke, he carefully sensed the spiritual power reserve in his body and found that a third of the Spirit Qi Imprint had not been depleted.

In spite of this, even a third of the spiritual power accumulated over time by the Bronze X/Legend's Spirit-Drawing Ichthyosaur was a huge amount.

Lin Yuan had firmly decided to face these enemies alone in order to preserve Liu Jie's strength as much as possible.

At the same time, after absorbing part of the Mountain-Containing Embryo, the Bronze X/Fantasy I Source Sand had already been promoted from Fantasy I to Fantasy II. It had now become a Gold I/Fantasy II elemental source-type item.

Liu Jie immediately put some of the late-stage Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects in the quicksand on standby. These had been produced by the Insect Queen when she had insufficient nutrients.

The insects prepared for a bloody meal.

Given the Lava Dragon Lizard's immense speed and the fact that the enemy on the opposite side was dashing towards them, Lin Yuan soon saw the oncoming enemies.

Upon closely inspecting the spirit qi professionals on the backs of the approaching Diamond Giant Cattle, Lin Yuan's pupils immediately constricted.

This was because they closely resembled the spirit qi professionals who had launched surprise attacks on him back in the controlled Class 3 abyss dimensional rift.

One is the product of one's environment. There were also differences in the appearances of spirit qi professionals from different continents.

Just based on their looks alone, it was obvious that they had come from the Radiance Federation.

It was highly possible that they were from the Dark Continent, just like the spirit qi professionals who had previously attacked him.

Lin Yuan used Morbius' True Data to scan the approaching feys.

He then closed his eyes and used his spiritual energy to communicate with Source Sand.

Following which, the sound of the boiling sea of sand under the seabed came out of his ears.

At this moment, the spirit qi professionals riding on the backs of the Diamond Giant Cattle also noticed Lin Yuan's presence.

Even though most of the opposing side's fey were not natural fighters, fey who had reached the Platinum and even the Diamond rank still possessed a certain killing ability.

Those feys released many long-range attacks toward the Lava Dragon Lizard.

Zhou Luo, who was riding on its back, yelled, "Lava Dragon Lizard, activate Lava Shield!"

Right after, a spherical shield enveloped the Lava Dragon Lizard's outer body surface, firmly protecting the Lava Dragon Lizard, Zhou Luo, Lin Yuan, and Liu Jie within the shield.

Various attacks were made on the shield, some splashing with ripples, and others disappearing without making even a single splash.

It could have been said that Zhou Luo singlehandedly warded off this flurry of attacks.

The Lava Dragon Lizard had awakened the dragon-species bloodline, so it was unrecognizable after its mutation and the growth of double heads.

The strength level of the Diamond Fantasy Breed was much higher than that of an ordinary Diamond fey.

Zhou Luo's existence had always been extremely low, but this time, he directly demonstrated his king-class strength.

At the same time, the seabed within the compatibility range of two kilometers instantly turned into a vortex of boiling quicksand.

The oncoming feys from the opposite side were all running on land, and as non-combat terrestrial feys, their mobility was not strong.

This caused many of the Platinum feys to be dragged immediately into the Fantasy Breed Source Sand's seas of sand, where they continued to sink.

Without Lin Yuan doing anything, Liu Jie's Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects, which he had instructed to hide and wait within the sand, ate these sunken feys alive. Not even a trace of blood or bone was wasted.

Compared to fey flesh, fey blood and bones contained nutrients that the Insect Queen needed more.

Thus, those few Diamond Giant Cattle struggled violently in the sea of sand.

Chapter 502: Gentleness Deserving of Death

When a fey's mobility was strong enough, it could run as much as it liked, even in churning quicksand.

It was just that the Giant Cattle were far too heavy, so they could only ensure that their heads did not sink under the quicksand during the struggle.

In the meantime, their entire bodies were submerged in the quicksand, save for a small part of their backs.

Even so, no matter how much Lin Yuan made the Source Sand drag the Giant Cattle downward, they could still move in the quicksand using their own strength.

The only difference was that the speed at which the Giant Cattle moved was really as slow as that of an old cow pulling a cart.

Seeing the situation, Lin Yuan immediately let the Source Sand use its exclusive skill of Gravel Spirit Acceptance, which was equivalent to the combat power of the Platinum III/Elite Heart-Penetrating Ironline, to kill the Diamond Giant Cattle.

However, at that very moment, Lin Yuan somewhat helplessly realized that even if the Source Sand's Gravel Spirit Acceptance could penetrate the Giant Cattle's body, it would only penetrate half a meter of flesh.

This was not enough to fatally wound the 15-meter-long Giant Cattle.

After such effort, Lin Yuan finally understood the bitterness of a mosquito in the summer.

Some people with thick hair or rough skin were akin to a nightmarish blow to the hungry mosquito.

After a hard night's work, not only would it be unable to suck even a drop of blood, its bloodsucking needle would also be blocked by dander.

However, Lin Yuan did not believe in evil and continued to direct the Heart-Penetrating Ironline towards the Giant Cattle's weakest spot.

Yet, the Giant Cattle actually clamped its tail tightly between its legs, completely protecting its fragile place.

Lin Yuan curled his lips and took a few Heart-Penetrating Ironlines of greater strength than Platinum III/Elite out his leaf-shaped Diamond fey storage box.

After a simple test, he directly replaced the Gravel Spirit Acceptance's previous Platinum III/Elite Heart-Penetrating Ironline with a Platinum V/Flawless one.

The needle on this mosquito's mouth was directly upgraded, although only by two small grades.

Nevertheless, the quality was also upgraded by one level.

The Platinum V/Flawless Heart-Penetrating Ironline was already able to completely penetrate the Giant Cattle's body and wander within it. The Heart-Penetrating Ironline then did its job of piercing the Giant Cattle's heart.

For a moment, each of the Giant Cattle appeared to be suffering tremendous pain in all four hooves.

They all emitted one last sound before they ceased to struggle, taking the spirit qi professionals on their backs down into the quicksand with them.

This scene only served to inspire horror in Liu Jie and Zhou Luo.

Lin Yuan's sea of sand was not as simple as it looked on the surface. There was clearly an entire cosmos lying within its depths.

It was as though there was a demon lurking in the dark, holding a scythe, ready to harvest the lifeforms in the sea of sand at any time.

Zhou Luo and Liu Jie had just witnessed how Lin Yuan had thrown the alien insect Heart-Penetrating Ironline into the sea of sand.

Presumably, the demon beneath the deep sea of sand was related to the dead Heart-Penetrating Ironline that Lin Yuan had thrown into the sand.

Only the specific connection between the two remained unknown.

Immediately afterwards, Zhou Luo and Liu Jie saw Lin Yuan taking a large quantity of Bronze ferromanganese and one cubic meter of Day and Night Spirit Silver out of his fey storage box.

Lin Yuan threw both of these spiritual materials into the quicksand vortex formed by the Source Sand.

Since the Source Sand had upgraded from Fantasy I to Fantasy II, its dedicated skills had all been strengthened as well.

Besides the Gravel Spirit Acceptance being able to accept stronger fey, the Metal Consume Manifestation could now also devour more metal.

The shape the Source Sand took during the change also became more refined.

One had to know that the Source Sand had only absorbed around half of the Mountain-Containing Embryo.

The Source Sand's remaining half was still holding the earth-elemental pearl produced by the Thick Earth Elemental Shellfish, fondling the pearl like an old man.

After the Mountain-Containing Embryo that it had previously absorbed changed its abilities, the Source Sand could also produce Close Guard Sand with three more layers than before.

For Lin Yuan, the increase in Close Guard Sand was tantamount to once again improving his own defense abilities.

Liu Jie was letting the Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects gnaw on the recently deceased Diamond Giant Cattle while urging the Insect Queen to use its Blast Recovery to explode the Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects to recover its energy from the large amounts of fey flesh and bones inside the insects' bodies.

The churning sea of sand's interior was akin to a chain of farts, continuously emitting puffing sounds.

Previously, Lin Yuan had always believed that his contracted Red Thorn was not good to the child ramets and ramets that it had bred.

Yet, seeing how Liu Jie's Insect Queen was using her insects now, Lin Yuan felt that Red Thorn was really a warm and lovely plant.

Of course, the most important thing was the damned gentleness with which Red Thorn treated the child ramets and ramets that it had spawned.

In actual fact, when Lin Yuan launched the quicksand's large-scale attack this time, he did not deplete much of the spiritual power in his body.

In the seabed, a large amount of gravel had already been created. This large-scale quicksand was, to a large extent, the instinctive behavior of the Source Sand as an elemental source-type item.

The real consumption of spiritual power occurred when he let the Source Sand use its exclusive skill to drive the Heart-Penetrating Ironline into the Diamond Giant Cattle to kill them.

In a short while, a small vortex of quicksand appeared at the Lava Dragon Lizard's feet.

Several golden discs were directly spat out of the vortex.

Lin Yuan's eyes lit up, and he jumped down from the Lava Dragon Lizard's back.

He picked up these 30 golden discs and inspected them one by one.

Following which, he realized that these golden discs were entirely identical to the ones that he had previously obtained.

The only difference lay in a light discrepancy in the size of the hole within each disc.

Lin Yuan's eyebrows raised in joy. The happiness he felt after obtaining these golden discs was infinitely greater than that he felt after obtaining some precious spiritual ingredients.

As the number of spirit-qi consumers in his Spirit Lock spatial zone increased, the energy ores originally stored within the golden discs were also consumed more and more quickly.

Especially since there were now a total of seven Bronze/Legend Elemental Shellfish continuously producing elemental pearls, the consumption of spirit qi had increased exponentially.

Hence, Lin Yuan needed to replenish the energy ores in the golden discs at short intervals of time.

Now, with 30 golden discs at hand, this no longer posed an issue.

Lin Yuan's trivial troubles were finally reduced.

Even if Morbius' Spirit Lock spatial zone evolved or too many spirit-qi consumers joined, Lin Yuan could handle it completely.

At the same time, he could not help but think that since the suicide squad sent by the enemy possessed golden discs, then others must also have them.

Just as Lin Yuan was ruminating over these golden discs, a violent spatial fluctuation came from the distance.

Chapter 503: Await His Return!

The expressions on Lin Yuan, Liu Jie, and Zhou Luo's faces changed in that instant.

The problem that they had all worried would arise had now truly appeared.

The fact that they could feel such a violent spatial fluctuation from so far away proved that the evolving Class 3 water world spatial rift had now, for whatever reason, already reached Class 4.

It had even begun its promotion to Class 5.

The current situation was so severe that it was necessary to race against time to retrieve the source-type items from the dimensional hub.

A typical dimensional rift required around 12 hours to evolve.

Hence, Lin Yuan, Liu Jie, and Zhou Luo had still had time to plan and prepare.

However, now affected by external factors, the dimensional rift was suddenly undergoing a leap-forward evolution. Moreover, acute spatial fluctuations were still coming from not far away.

This meant that the dimensional rift's evolution from Class 4 to Class 5 could be completed any time now.

Lin Yuan knew that even after he and others were sucked into the dimensional rift; the Mother of Bloodbath, Endless Summer, and Listen would definitely realize it and be on high alert.

Yet, no matter how much preparation was done, if the Class 5 dimensional rift really opened in the coastal sea so close to Indigo Azure City, then the entire city would be destined to fall into ruins at the seabed.

Just as Lin Yuan and Liu Jie's expressions grew increasingly heavy, Zhou Luo raised his head and looked into the distance.

He then turned his head back and gazed at Liu Jie before casting a deep look at Lin Yuan.

The faintly determined expression between Zhou Luo's eyebrows now thickened, as though he was solidifying the decision he had made in his heart at that moment.

Lin Yuan inhaled deeply and did not stop until his lungs were swollen and painful.

Then, Lin Yuan expelled all of this breath again, suppressing the urgency that had arisen in his heart.

Gazing calmly at Liu Jie and Zhou Luo, he said, "We will rush directly towards the dimensional hub's position. Whatever the cost, we must stop the dimensional rift's evolution."

Just after Lin Yuan's had spoken, before Liu Jie could respond, Zhou Luo shouted, "Alright!"

This one yell seemed to contain all of Zhou Luo's solitary bravery.

Zhou Luo did not understand why the blood in his heart was surging at this time.

He also could not tell if Lin Yuan's thoughts caused this surge of blood. As a servant, Zhou Luo had to obey Lin Yuan's orders in order to repay the latter's kindness in giving him a new lease of life.

Perhaps, it was simply caused by the sight of the determined light twinkling in Lin Yuan and Liu Jie's eyes.

Liu Jie did not say anything. He was focused on quickly manipulating the insect swarms in the sand under the seabed into ingesting the dead Diamond Giant Cattle with all their strength.

Liu Jie knew that a tough battle would be fought next.

In this crisis, even replenishing the depleted energy in the Insect Queen's body was considered a huge luxury.

Liu Jie raised his head and said, "It will take some time for these Diamond Giant Cattle to be completely consumed. I have left around 500 Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects here to finish ingesting the feys under the sea of sand."

Upon hearing this, Lin Yuan stopped concealing the Source Sand's large amount of yellow sand under the seabed.

Lin Yuan did not channel his spiritual power into the Source Sand. It was only because the Source Sand sensed his instructions that it drove the entire ocean of sand and gravel by itself.

Looking around, one saw that the surrounding environment was instantly transformed into a world made of gravel.

Before Zhou Luo and Liu Jie could register their shock, everyone had once again mounted the Lava Dragon Lizard.

The billowing sand grains pushed the Lava Dragon Lizard to thrust itself forward. Although not obvious, this truly increased the lizard's running speed.

At the same time, at the coastal sea close to Indigo Azure City, outside the evolving dimensional rift, a woman dressed in moon-colored long robes was bathing under the blood-tinted moonlight. Murderous intent and worry were written on her face in equal parts. Her body's imposing manner was exposed without concealment.

This woman was the Moon Empress, who had just arrived an hour ago.

The dense moonlight cast a heavy curtain behind the Moon Empress. Beneath this curtain, there was only the Moon Empress, Mystic Moon, and the blocked entrance to the dimensional rift.

Outside of it stood the Mother of Bloodbath, Endless Summer, and Listen.

The trio's bodies were also enveloped by rich moonlight, obscuring their figures.

Behind them stood countless experts who had come from areas within and close to Indigo Azure City upon learning of the Moon Empress' arrival.

A vast majority of these experts were Creation Masters.

Yet, most of them stood with their bodies bowed and their eyes gazing only at the ground.

It was as though even lifting their eyes would be considered overstepping their authority.

Amongst them were the two Guard Envoys, who stood five positions behind the Mother of Bloodbath, Endless Summer, and Listen.

Behind the curtain of moonlight, Mystic Moon looked at the Moon Empress' expression and understood more deeply how much Lin Yuan weighed in her heart.

In the many years that he had followed the Moon Empress, he rarely saw such worry written on her face.

Moreover, this anxiety had already cast a shadow over her face for many hours.

Mystic Moon lowered his head and glanced at the bright red Ethereal Jellyfish in the Moon Empress' arms.

He then cast another gaze at the small rabbit at her feet that looked like it had fallen into disfavor, with its drooping ears and lack of energy.

Mystic Moon then understood that the extent of the worry in the Moon Empress' heart was not at all as simple as that which was revealed on her face.

However, at this time, as one of the Moon Empress' Moon Envoys, Mystic Moon still had matters to attend to.

Suddenly, he thought of something and asked the Moon Empress softly, "Moon Empress, on Cold Moon's side, would you like to..."

Before he was finished speaking, the Moon Empress already understood his words.

She raised her brows and thought about it for three seconds before replying, "Yes."

Naturally, the Moon Empress knew that when Mystic Moon had mentioned Cold Moon, he had actually been referring to Chu Ci.

The Moon Empress was very clear about the sibling bond between Lin Yuan and Chu Ci. At this moment, it could be said that Lin Yuan was in a life-and-death situation. Putting herself in Chu Ci's shoes, the Moon Empress felt that Chu Ci had to be informed of Lin Yuan's plight.

After all, as Lin Yuan's master, she would consider it unacceptable if she was the one who did not know about this matter.

When it came to the ways of the world, it was better to say more rather than less. In the face of true familial relations, these slick and sly ways appeared more like falsehoods and heresies.

Besides Chu Ci, Cold Moon, as one of the Moon Envoys, should also have been standing there, awaiting the return of the Young Lord of Radiant Moon Palace! His return!

Chapter 504: Really Too Short!

Mystic Moon turned and walked out from behind the curtain of moonlight, thinking about how he should inform Cold Moon about the situation.

It was truly anxiety-inducing to have to relay bad news.

Just after he stepped out, the Mother of Bloodbath, standing cloaked in rich moonlight, immediately came forward and asked urgently, "Lin Yuan—"

Before it could finish its sentence, Mystic Moon raised his eyes to gaze upon it and said, "You did not fulfill your duty as the Path Protector and betrayed the Moon Empress' trust."

Mystic Moon's words cut into the Mother of Bloodbath's arachnid heart like a knife.

To begin with, worry had been written on its face, but upon hearing Mystic Moon's words, the Mother of Bloodbath turned pale as a sheet.

Ignoring its reaction, Mystic Moon continued as he walked past the Mother of Bloodbath, "You also betrayed Lin Yuan's trust."

If his previous words had been a knife, then what he said now was a hammer, slamming repeatedly into the Mother of Bloodbath's heart.

Endless Summer quickly extended a hand to hold the Mother of Bloodbath and give her a little strength.

Upon hearing Mystic Moon's words, Endless Summer's heart was like the Mother of Bloodbath's. Such was the empathy it felt towards the Mother of Bloodbath.

Although Endless Summer was not Lin Yuan's Path Protector, it was still his Protector and had the duty of protecting him.

While Mystic Moon's words had been spoken to the Mother of Bloodbath, they had also been directed to Endless Summer.

As Mystic Moon's figure appeared through the rich moonlight, some of the experts in front who had been bowing before now raised their heads slightly.

The two Guard Envoys in the first line hurriedly went up to him and asked, "Mystic Moon, how did the Moon Empress make arrangements here?"

They felt great anxiety in their hearts, as they had come to Indigo Azure City for a mission, but they had been met with many ups and downs.

Initially, they had come to the deserted island to investigate the energy fluctuations in the experts' battle, but they had then accidentally run into the Moon Empress' disciple.

Now, the Moon Empress had personally arrived at the deserted island.

In hindsight, the problem had probably arisen with the little ancestor who had been unwilling to even address the two as 'Seniors'.

If they had known earlier that such a situation would arise, the two would not have left the deserted island so hurriedly. Instead, they would have stayed behind on it.

Now, a controlled Class 3 water world dimensional rift had unexpectedly appeared in the sea region near Indigo Azure City.

Moreover, the main thing was that this dimensional rift was still evolving.

This was a matter of heavenly importance!

Even though the two Guard Envoys were used to witnessing great upheavals and changes, they still did not know how to handle the current situation.

Standing far in the distance behind them, Duan He secretly raised his head.

However, he did not look directly ahead but first glanced left and right.

With this, he sighed deeply in his heart.

There were so many Class 4 Creation Masters surrounding him. It was as though those who could make it had all hurried here!

It was likely that even if Indigo Azure City's Creation Master Association held a large event, one would not see so many Class 4 Creation Masters gathered together at the same time!

Duan He secretly raised his head and looked ahead.

Yet, with this one glance, he already sensed that the three distant silhouettes bathed in rich moonlight appeared vaguely familiar.

As they were concealed by the moonlight, Duan He could not deduce why this was so at the current moment.

Just then, he heard a cold voice.

It carried with it the iciness of Ethereal Spirits frozen on the ground and an unspeakable severity, as though it was relaying an order that none could disobey.

"Mystic Moon, inform the imperial court that for this dimensional rift, preparations must be made in advance to handle a Class 5 or higher dimensional rift."

The Moon Empress' voice made the hearts of everyone present skip a beat. At the same time, faces immediately filled with shock.

Did the Moon Empress really mention that this was a Class 5 or higher dimensional rift?

This kind of dimensional rift had never been heard of in the past!

At that very moment, the two Guard Envoys, with cold sweat dripping down their foreheads and worry in their hearts, did not expect it when the Moon Empress proceeded to call out their names.

“The Guard Envoys of the Spirit Guards, go and request of the Chief Guard, Night Leaning Moon, that she preside over this.”

...

The Lava Dragon Lizard raced across the sea of sand without once stopping.

A minute ago, Lin Yuan had already sensed that something was rushing towards him and the others over the sandy sea of endless gravel.

Lin Yuan faced Liu Jie and said in a deep voice, “Big Brother Liu, don’t hold back in the fight later. We will get the battle over and done with quickly.”

Liu Jie immediately replied, “Okay, I will let the Lightning Gathering Moths use the previously gathered lightning beams to direct long-range strikes.”

Having absorbed the plasma energy from the Plasma Caterpillars, the Lightning Gathering Moths could be seen as the most formidable attack tactic in Liu Jie’s sea of insects.

Originally, Liu Jie and Lin Yuan had planned to use these moths as assassins for sneak attacks.

However, at this critical moment, it would not do to employ such logical battle strategies.

One could only be reckless, continuously reckless, reckless all the way to the dimensional hub!

From the situation on the sea of sand, Lin Yuan had already known that the incoming enemy was a tough guy.

Because even the rushing feys, which were extremely flexible, had been continuously pulled down into the quicksand vortexes in the Source Sand.

These feys could still rely on their extreme mobility to not be greatly hindered in the process of advancing.

The Lava Dragon Lizard did now slow down even at the prospect of facing the enemies.

Soon after seeing the situation on the opposite side, Lin Yuan’s eyes narrowed suddenly.

He had just seen that every one of the feys rushing towards him was huge and had a strange blade-like object inserted into its body.

Lin Yuan immediately used True Data to scan one of the largest of these strange creatures at the very front.

[Fey Name]: Blade Worm (Blade Queen Bee Larva)

[Fey Species]: Paracaridae/Heridae

[Fey Grade]: Diamond (7/10)

[Fey Type]: Metal

[Fey Quality]: Flawless

Lin Yuan now knew what these strange lifeforms with blades were.

They turned out to be the larvae hatched from the Blade Queen Bee's eggs.

But the bodies of these Blade Worm were really too short!

They were just like fat sea cucumbers.

Rather than 'Blade Worm', calling them 'Blade Fat Sea Cucumber' would have been a little more vivid.

Chapter 505: The Art of Explosions

Lin Yuan dared not to look down on the Blade Worms.

The Blade Queen Bee was a carcinoma fey that the Spirit Guards had documented.

The Blade Queen Bee had the greatest destructive capabilities of all the carcinoma feys documented by the Spirit Guards.

Although it did not have strong fighting abilities of its own, it had a psychotoxin that allowed it to smoothly produce eggs, as well as a stinger that could penetrate almost anything.

Every Blade Worm birthed by the Blade Queen Bee was a lethal weapon. The Blade Worms lived to fight and kill until they were incapacitated. Thus, they had to give this battle their all.

However, the thought of the imminent challenge delighted Lin Yuan.

The situation could only be described as good news.

This was the water world dimensional rift, and the Blade Queen Bee needed enough fresh feys to produce Blade Worms.

After producing the eggs, the psychotoxin the Blade Queen Bee injected into the target would homogenize with the psychotoxins on the Blade Worms' eggshells.

The psychotoxin would immediately turn into a deadly psychotoxin.

It was a defense mechanism that ensured the Blade Worms' eggshells would break after the host died.

Because of the two toxins' effects, the newly hatched Blade Worms would make short work of devouring the target's brain.

Despite the death of the host, their memory would remain intact. The Blade Worms would steal the host's fighting experience and skills that were encoded in the brain.

Hence, when the Blade Worms matured, they would automatically turn into capable war machines.

This was also why the support fey that had run to their deaths did not turn into Blade Worms.

After eating brains, the freshly hatched Blade Worms would tunnel upward to the surface of the target's body to breathe their first breath of air.

Then, they would move on to feast on the host's organs, flesh, and bones.

When the Blade Worms were done absorbing the energy in the host's body, they would align their grade and quality to that of the host.

However, high-grade water world dimensional lifeforms decayed swiftly after death.

There was not enough time for the Blade Worms to feed. That's why there weren't many Blade Worms initially.

As long as there was a dependable energy source, the Blade Queen Bee would birth a batch of eggs in about 48 hours.

Even if the Blade Queen Bee's production rate was slow, it would still be at least 10 or even 100 times faster than normal feys.

There did not seem to be enough ingredients available in the area for the Blade Queen Bee to begin producing eggs.

Otherwise, Lin Yuan's side would lose for sure.

Lin Yuan had already used True Data to check on the Blade Worms' quantity and grade.

When he was done, he let out a thunderous yell. "25 Diamond Blade Worms and 47 Platinum Blade Worms. Big Brother Liu, don't send the recharging Lightning Gathering Moths to attack the Diamond Blade Worms. We should kill the 47 Platinum Blade Worms first!"

When Liu Jie heard Lin Yuan mention the 25 Diamond Blade Worms, he immediately disregarded the depletion of the insect army and called out the 300 recharged Lightning Gathering Moths from the swirling quicksand Lin Yuan created.

Liu Jie immediately directed 100 Lightning Gathering Moths to shoot the lightning beams formed from the absorption of the Plasma Caterpillars at the 47 Platinum Blade Worms that were running behind the 25 Diamond Blade Worms.

100 brilliant purplish-blue beams of electricity were released with an ear-splitting crack.

The purplish-blue beams of electricity struck the 47 Platinum Blade Worms, electrocuting the quicksand below them and turning it into a sticky fluid.

Liu Jie, Lin Yuan, and Zhou Luo held their breaths as they watched the countless darting streaks of electricity.

Unfortunately, when the electricity cleared, it was revealed that the 100 beams of light had only managed to kill one Platinum Blade Worm.

There were also seven or eight Platinum Blade Worms that had also been taken down, and the electricity had also punched large holes in these fainted Blade Worms.

However, thorns rapidly sprouted from the large holes, sealing them up.

Through the use of True Data, Lin Yuan discovered that the recuperated Blade Worms had dropped to Platinum IV.

Although the Blade Worms' wounds caused their grade to fall, the newly grown thorns looked ferocious.

Liu Jie looked forward, where the Blade Worms were still charging, and said, "I plan to use Battle Strategy 4."

"Take care of attacking. I'll use the Source Sand to assist you."

Lin Yuan injected spiritual power into the Source Sand's sea of gravel, and 150 Shield Ladybugs tunneled out.

50 Shield Ladybugs formed one group, and the three groups blocked the front of the Lava Dragon Lizard.

Zhou Luo started to apply Lava Shield on each of the Shield Ladybugs in the first group.

Liu Jie did not use the remaining 200 Lightning Gathering Moths to continue shooting lightning at the Platinum Blade Worms.

Instead, he sent the 200 recharged Lightning Gathering Moths and the 100 already spent ones charging toward the remaining 46 Platinum Blade Worms.

When the 200 recharged Lightning Gathering Moths closed in on the Blade Worms, they released the lightning in their bodies.

Before the lightning made contact with the Blade Worms, Liu Jie bellowed, "Insect Queen, use Blast Recovery!"

A deafening clap of thunder and the roar of the exploding Lightning Gathering Moths echoed as the 46 Blade Worms were struck!

Chapter 506: Strange Grunting

Liu Jie did not falter in the attack. He pressed on and commanded the 200 Plasma Caterpillars to also join in the wreck of self-explosions.

When he was done, Liu Jie put the survival of the 46 Platinum Blade Worms out of his mind.

He shifted his attention to the thousands of Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects crawling out of the quicksand that were charging toward the 25 Diamond Blade Worms.

Liu Jie knew that regardless of the regenerative abilities of the 47 Platinum Blade Worms, it was impossible for them to have survived the previous attack.

Lin Yuan had already activated the Source Sand to coat every Flesh-Mincing Blade Insect with a thin layer of gravel.

The thin layer of gravel enabled Lin Yuan to create extremely durable ferromanganese. The ferromanganese's strength lowered the Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects' speed, but it did not affect Liu Jie's Battle Strategy 4.

Liu Jie's Battle Strategy 4 was not impacted by the individual insect species, for it treated every insect species produced by the Insect Queen as explosive collateral stock.

Using art was the way to fight using explosives!

Liu Jie totally looked like a terrorist!

But, this fighting style fit the current situation to a tee.

On the battlefield, everything occurred in split seconds.

Now, any and all methods should be used to stop the Diamond Blade Worms' advance.

If the Diamond Blade Worms closed in on them, Lin Yuan and his team would lose their lives, much less be able to prevent the dimensional rift's evolution.

A section of the Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects charged at the 25 Diamond Blade Worms from the ground.

The remaining section of the Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects was transported underground by Lin Yuan. These Flesh-Mincing Blade Insects, which were meant to be exploded, were delivered directly under the Blade Worms.

Liu Jie ordered the Hurricane Owlet Moths to call upon hurricanes, so the gale force could impede the Blade Worms' strength.

The strong winds kicked up sand, which allowed Lin Yuan to control the Hurricane Owlet Moths.

A large number of ferromanganese chain blades appeared amongst the flying sand.

The ferromanganese chain blades sailed toward the Blade Worms, which would have instantly torn them to shreds.

Due to the savage winds, the 250 Blade Worms had already slowed by at least 30%.

Most of the insect species were in position.

Liu Jie glanced at the 150 Shield Ladybugs in front of the Lava Dragon Lizard and gnashed his teeth.

He ordered the Shield Ladybugs to spread the wings under their armor and fly toward the Blade Worms.

Zhou Luo, who had been maintaining the shields, shouted, "Lava Dragon Lizard, use Elemental Release!"

The lava-shielded Shield Ladybugs expanded with energy in an instant, setting the shields alight with raging fires.

The Hurricane Owlet Moths stopped creating hurricanes and instead shot down from the air toward the Blade Worms.

Explosions from above and below erupted in all directions.

A wave of energy was redirected into the Insect Queen's body, and its body, which had transformed into an insect base, was awash with a glowing green exterior of energy.

This was how the Insect Queen looked when its energy capacity had reached the maximum.

At this point, the insect army created by Liu Jie and Lin Yuan was almost all gone.

Other than Lin Yuan's Extreme Token, everyone had utilized all the power they had access to without holding anything back.

Lin Yuan suddenly thought about the effects of the exclusive skill the Lava Dragon Lizard used.

The exclusive skill Elemental Release allowed the Lava Dragon Lizard to release fire-elemental energy from its new head. It could significantly increase the damage of explosions.

When Lin Yuan was recruiting the white-clothed followers, he had concentrated on Freezing Cold's contracted feys at Purchase With No Loss store.

Lin Yuan had only done a brief scan of Zhou Luo's feys, so he had not noticed their abilities and exclusive skills.

The Iron Bone Tearing Lizard's abilities and exclusive skills changed considerably when it evolved to the Lava Dragon Lizard.

Lin Yuan used Morbius' True Data to check on the Lava Dragon Lizard he was riding on.

[Fey Name]: Lava Dragon Lizard

[Fey Species]: Iguanidae/Huge Iguana

[Fey Grade]: Diamond (1/10)

[Fey Type]: Earth/Fire

[Fey Quality]: Fantasy I

Abilities:

[Strong Head Lizard Hit]: Strengthens the head and concentrates all the body's strength to the head to strike.

[Shield Tail Parry]: Strengthens the skin of the tail to turn it into a shield. Used to parry attacks.

[Lizard Roar]: Uses neighing to increase the body's blood circulation to direct blood to the lizard skin and raise its defensive ability.

[Thick Shield]: Apply a double layer of thick shields to a select target. The floating double layer of shields can slow oncoming damage.

[Lava Strong Shield]: Combine the body's earth-elemental and fire-elemental energy into lava and set up a single layer of lava imbued shielding on numerous targets.

[Shield Regeneration]: Broken shields are fixed using the body's energy. As long as the body still has energy and the shield is not attacked by fire elements, the shield will be immediately recovered.

Exclusive Skill:

[Unbreakable Iron Bones]: Before receiving an attack, the defensive ability is raised before the fighting ability is utilized until the life is ended.

[Elemental Release]: The body's elemental energy is released onto the surface of any shield so as to increase the shield's innate elemental properties.

After looking through, if Lin Yuan was going to appraise the Lava Dragon Lizard, he would deem it as barely average.

Its defensive ability was far from being as versatile and comprehensive as Shi Xu's Silent Thunder Armored Crocodile.

Moreover, Normal, Epic, and Bronze grade abilities would be especially effective on the Lava Dragon Lizard, which greatly depressed the Lava Dragon Lizard's capabilities as a defense-type fey.

However, Lin Yuan felt Unbreakable Iron Bones was special.

Liu Jie, who was next to Lin Yuan, had already instructed the Insect Queen to change into the insect base and was continuously producing insect armies so as to slow down the depletion during battle.

The smoke from the explosions still had not dissipated.

Surprisingly, at that moment, a strange grunting resounded amid the dulled explosion sounds.

Chapter 507: Resolution to Die

The strange grunting amid the sounds of explosions sounded like a final wail.

But, this final wail was interlaced with undeniable desperation and madness.

The sound immediately gave Lin Yuan a bad feeling.

As the Blade Worms were war machines, the Blade Queen Bee produced, and under normal circumstances, they were purely produced for battle and did not have any emotions of their own.

However, the Blade Worms' grunting now carried obvious emotions, indicating the Blade Queen Bee's death.

The suppressed genetics inside of the Blade Worms would only be unlocked after the Blade Queen Bee's death.

Lin Yuan summoned Genius and removed the mask Hu Quan had created before putting on the mask Genius transformed into.

Lin Yuan carefully scanned the surroundings.

The timing of the Blade Queen Bee's death was too coincidental, for it coincided with the exact time that the 25 Diamond Blade Worms were struck.

Logic dictated that such an enormous succession of explosions must have killed the 25 Diamond Blade Worms.

Because the concurrence of the Blade Queen Bee's death unlocked the Blade Worms' genetics, an unknown number of Blade Worms could have survived the explosions.

After studying the surroundings while wearing the Genius mask, Lin Yuan did not learn anything.

This raised a problem—a carcinoma fey like the Blade Queen Bee that was skilled at hiding would definitely not have died in a random fashion.

This meant someone had murdered the Blade Queen Bee intentionally.

After the smoke dissipated, the Diamond Blade Worms had formed a pile the size of a small mountain.

The outer layer of the Diamond Blade Worms had been burnt to a crisp by the explosions.

At that moment, the small mountain of 25 Diamond Blade Worms started to shake.

Eight thorn-covered Blade Worms that resembled sea urchins emerged from the small mountain.

The thorns protruding from the Blade Worms showed that the explosions had injured those Blade Worms in spite of the protection they received from their comrades in front of them.

Using True Data, it was found that the eight Diamond Blade Worms were now Diamond V at best and Diamond II at worst.

Judging from the skin of thorns that covered the eight Blade Worms that managed to survive, Lin Yuan could see that the originally purplish-gray skin was now purplish-red.

The eight Blade Worms were in no rush to charge toward Lin Yuan's group.

Instead, they bitterly grunted a distance away.

The Blade Queen Bee's death doomed the rest of this colony of Blade Worms.

As the wails of despair persisted, the aura around the eight Blade Worms climbed.

Suddenly, a vigorous dimensional fluctuation started up a distance away.

The dimensional fluctuations were moving at high frequencies, which formed a whistle that sounded like a kettle boiling.

The whistle of the dimensional fluctuation resulted in a shift in expression in Liu Jie, Lin Yuan, and Zhou Luo.

The whistle coming from the dimensional hub meant that the dimensional rift's evolution would be completed in an hour.

From Lin Yuan's position, the Lava Dragon Lizard would need 50 minutes to arrive at the dimensional hub at its current speed.

Not to mention they would need to ensure that the journey was clear of obstacles.

Even if Liu Jie's Insect Queen's Hurricane Owlet Moths teamed up to manipulate the winds along their journey, they would still need at least 30 minutes to reach the dimensional hub.

Time waited for no man. The dam was on the cusp of breaking.

There were still the eight Diamond Blade Worms blocking their path.

Behind Zhou Luo's composed expression was an extreme yearning for determination.

Zhou Luo turned to say seriously to Lin Yuan, "Young Master, how does it feel to be a hero?"

Lin Yuan was in the middle of trying to come up with a way to overcome the present issue. He froze when he heard Zhou Luo's question.

Lin Yuan felt that the question was rather weird, but he replied nonetheless, "I don't know what it feels like to be a hero."

Ever since the incident at Millstone Town, Lin Yuan had only brought out the Black identity during the Star Web Star Tower Celestial Stairway match.

Moreover, Lin Yuan was not interested in online forums and platforms, and he did not even participate in Black's fan clubs.

Thus, it was true that Lin Yuan had never really experienced heroism.

Zhou Luo was stunned when he heard Lin Yuan's reply. Lin Yuan quickly added, "There are some things that require someone to take responsibility of the frontline. I'm not a real hero and won't go out of my way to do heroic acts. But, if I happen to encounter such events, I will never shy away."

The yearning in Zhou Luo's eyes shone with a special gleam when he heard Lin Yuan's words.

The glow in Zhou Luo's eyes steadily grew, adding a hint of austerity to his resolute demeanor.

Lin Yuan was preparing for battle when Zhou Luo spoke. "Young Master, you two should head toward the dimensional hub. Leave these eight gross bugs to my buddy and me."

Lin Yuan fixed his gaze on Zhou Luo.

While Liu Jie was instructing the Hurricane Owlet Moths, he too noticed the shared sentiment in Zhou Luo's eyes.

When Zhou Luo had the eyes of both men on him, he beamed charismatically.

"Don't worry. My buddy has really hard bones. When I'm finished with these eight gross bugs, I'll regroup with you two. Then, we'll leave this place together."

As Zhou Luo spoke, he glanced toward the dimensional hub, and a look of concern was evident on his face.

But when he turned toward the eight Diamond Blade Worms, Zhou Luo only had charm and determination in his eyes.

Lin Yuan took a sharp intake of breath.

If Zhou Luo is standing out to take on these Blade Worms whose genetics have been unlocked, he must be going in with the resolution to die. The Lava Dragon Lizard might be a Diamond/Fantasy Breed, but it's only a Diamond I defense-type fey.

Chapter 508: Blooming Carnage

Liu Jie had already created eight Hurricane Owlet Moths.

"Big Brother Zhou made the right choice. We should head up first. If we encounter any danger, I'll take care of it. We have to deliver you to the dimensional hub," said Liu Jie to Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan felt a heavy weight pressing down on his chest. He understood where Liu Jie was coming from, so Lin Yuan agreed with their decision.

Lin Yuan's resolve to prevent the dimensional rift's evolution was unwavering. He just felt that he was too weak to prevent such a disaster on his own.

Lin Yuan turned and said to Zhou Luo, "I want to give you something, Big Brother Zhou."

Zhou Luo felt warmly validated when he heard Liu Jie and Lin Yuan address him in such a manner.

Zhou Luo doubtfully stretched out his hand to Lin Yuan.

What does he have for me?

When he saw what Lin Yuan had taken out, he immediately stretched out his other hand as well.

The heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls from Lin Yuan's Spirit Lock spatial zone were in a pile.

Lin Yuan placed all the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls produced by the Scorching Elemental Shellfish and the Thick Earth Elemental Shellfish in Zhou Luo's hands.

Since Lin Yuan had spent away the previous elemental pearls, the ones at hand were just the fruits of two days worth of production, which totaled about 100 pieces.

Most of the elemental pearls were earth-type. The fire-elemental pearls were the Twin Red Pagoda's leftovers, and there were only a small number of them.

Zhou Luo's Lava Dragon Lizard was a fire- and earth-type fey. Its exclusive skill, Elemental Release, could imbue shields with elemental power.

These heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls could effectively supplement the Lava Dragon Lizard's exclusive skill.

Using the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls to replenish elemental energy was a huge waste, but these 100 elemental pearls could significantly raise the Lava Dragon Lizard's fighting power.

Time was tight. Lin Yuan and Liu Jie continued following the four Hurricane Owlet Moths toward the dimensional hub after giving Zhou Luo the elemental pearls.

Zhou Luo looked at the 100 heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls in his hands, and he could feel the immense elemental energy they encompassed.

A spark of hope for survival bloomed in spite of Zhou Luo's resolution for death.

In order for the spark to erupt into a flame, he needed to brush against death and do all he could to finish off the eight Diamond Blade Worms.

Zhou Luo patted the Lava Dragon Lizard's two necks, an action he had performed countless times in the past to the point that it came as natural to him as breathing.

"Old buddy, it's time for us to fight alongside one another again. Let us two lazy bums show off what we can do," he murmured to the Lava Dragon Lizard.

The Lava Dragon Lizard released the ability Lizard Roar.

The bones on the Lava Dragon Lizard's skin were flushed with blood and strengthened.

The Lava Dragon Lizard covered itself with the ability Thick Shield followed by Lava Strong Shield.

It reared its two heads and used all the strength it could muster to charge the eight Blade Worms, crashing into two of them.

When the shield came in contact with the thorns all over the Blade Worm's bodies, a spine-chilling sound was produced.

At that moment, carnage bloomed, but fearlessness arose.

Zhou Luo thought back to his childhood.

A very talented young man that came from a modest background was paired with an Iron Bone Iguana that did not have any concept of teamwork in its abilities before it reached Silver grade.

The two experienced more than their fair share of evil and hardship.

The abilities Strong Head Lizard Hit, Shield Tail Parry, Lizard Roar, and Unbreakable Iron Bones, which had been ridiculed, seemed to be part of destiny.

Those abilities and exclusive skills were now at maximum effectiveness.

The sound of the Lizard Roar and the impact noise upon contact with the Blade Worms' thorns was deafening.

Behind the horrible sound were one man and one lizard who were forming a barrier between the tsunami that was the Class 5 dimensional rift for the sake of Indigo Azure City.

The horrible sound was earth-shattering, and a pandemonium of aggressive bedlam was created in the raging storm of sand.

One after another, the heavenly-maiden-grade elemental pearls were shattered in Zhou Luo's hand. However, he eventually sensed that the Lava Dragon Lizard had absorbed too much elemental energy and was experiencing a lag in its sensitivity to elemental energy.

In light of the remaining three Blade Worms that could still stand, Zhou Luo disabled the Lava Dragon Lizard's shield.

Bloody holes were punctured into the shieldless Lava Dragon Lizard's body by the Blade Worms' thorns.

The Lava Dragon Lizard looked like a mass of blood, and even Zhou Luo's leg had been stabbed several times as well.

Zhou Luo injected his last ounce of spiritual power into the Lava Dragon Lizard.

Despite his depleted spiritual energy, this seven-foot-tall man stood with perfect posture, his radiant pride shining through.

The impact noise and the sound of the thorns puncturing skin were neverending until the last Diamond Blade Worm collapsed to the ground with only enough strength left to writhe.

The ten-meter-long Lava Dragon Lizard crashed to the ground, and Zhou Luo fell beside it.

Zhou Luo shakily got to his feet and looked at the sprawled-out Lava Dragon Lizard that was barely clinging to life.

"Old buddy, your exclusive skill Unbreakable Iron Bones, let us hold on to the end. We survived thanks to you."

Zhou Luo summoned the recently contracted Bronze X/Epic Dark Snake Dragon Lizard that he still had not had time to nurture.

The Dark Snake Dragon Lizard immediately started to attack the writhing Blade Worms in a frenzy.

When the Dark Snake Dragon Lizard emptied its body of energy, the Blade Worms were still left with a final breath, but not enough to make even the slightest movement.

Zhou Luo picked up one of the broken thorns from the ground and walked up to the Diamond Blade Worms.

He plunged the thorn into the Blade Worm's fist-sized, thorn-covered head.

Zhou Luo seemed to understand what it felt like to be a hero at that moment.

The feeling was like a raging storm and swaying plants. It was like leaning on your own shoulder and lifting the growing grass and flying birds.

This feeling was of utter elation, and it filled him with an effulgent sense of having found his calling.

Chapter 509: Could It Really Be a Sacred Source Lifeform?

Zhou Luo raised his head, gazed into the distance, and yelled with all his might in that direction, "Lin Yuan, Liu Jie, everything depends on you now!"

After shouting this, Zhou Luo staggered towards the Lava Dragon Lizard.

He had just taken some ointment made of spiritual ingredients out of the fey storage box and was preparing to rub it on the Lava Dragon Lizard's body.

However, at that moment, as his tension eased, he immediately felt dizzy due to the excessive blood loss from the wound on his leg.

This sudden dizziness blackened Zhou Luo's vision. He collapsed beside the Lava Dragon Lizard and fell into a deep sleep.

...

Lin Yuan, carried by four Hurricane Owlet Moths, rushed towards the dimensional hub.

On one hand, he was now concerned about Zhou Luo's condition.

On the other, his journey had been unexpectedly calm.

The Source Sand's gravel had long been laid at the dimensional hub's location.

Lin Yuan continuously urged the Source Sand to produce sand grains beneath the seabed, using the dimensional hub as the center.

Now, these sand grains completely covered a compatibility range of three kilometers surrounding the dimensional hub.

The Source Sand was not sensitive to small vibrations on the seabed's surface, but it could easily detect violent vibrations.

Lin Yuan had not been notified by the Source Sand of any severe vibrations within this compatibility range.

It seemed that there probably weren't any huge feys like the Blade Worm moving about in the dimensional hub's vicinity.

The Hurricane Owlet Moths carried Lin Yuan and Liu Jie in flight for close to five minutes. Lin Yuan immediately saw many well-built strongholds beneath their feet.

Clearly, people had been living there for a prolonged period of time in the past.

Looking at the strongholds before his eyes, Liu Jie said to Lin Yuan in a deep voice, "This place is very close to the dimensional hub. Should we get off here and walk to it on foot or let the Hurricane Owlet Moths fly us there?"

Liu Jie eyed the strongholds on the ground with vigilance.

Although they appeared deathly still from above, Liu Jie was still unable to confirm if there were any remaining spirit qi professionals within them.

If there were, then wouldn't he and Lin Yuan have become two obvious moving targets in the air?

As they neared the dimensional hub, Lin Yuan did not know why, but he felt an increasing sense of urgency.

The dimensional fluctuations here were really too severe. If they did not stop the dimensional rift's evolution immediately, Lin Yuan would not be able to feel at ease.

Looking at the dimensional hub in front of them, Lin Yuan turned to Liu Jie and said, "Big Brother Liu, let's rush into it directly."

After receiving Lin Yuan's answer, Liu Jie immediately ordered the Insect Queen to create four Shield Ladybugs.

After the Shield Ladybugs had been produced, they opened up the shells on their back and flapped their wings beneath the carapaces. Like four guards, they prepared to use their bodies as shields to resist attacks coming from all four directions from the ground.

However, the Shield Ladybugs were obviously unable to keep up with the Hurricane Owlet Moths in the air.

Thus, Liu Jie let the Insect Queen use its exclusive skill of Swarm Frenzy on the ladybugs.

At the cost of depleting their vitality, the Shield Ladybugs could now keep up with the Hurricane Owlet Moths' speed.

Long before they had made their recent decision, Lin Yuan had already come up with a solution to deal with the strongholds beneath their feet.

The Source Sand had not been able to battle the Platinum Blade Worms alone.

However, if one needed houses to be torn down, then the Source Sand would definitely be the first name to come to mind.

Following Lin Yuan's orders, the three kilometers of land beneath them turned into a world of turbulent yellow sand that instantly swallowed the strongholds built on the seabed.

During the swallowing process, the strongholds were also crushed by the sand grains, becoming a part of the sea of sand.

Liu Jie's eyelids jumped wildly as he witnessed this scene before him. He could not help but think of the Diamond Earth-Turning Giant Elephants that Wen Yu had found when he had been trying to level the mansion's land.

When the Earth-Turning Giant Elephants had turned over the land, the scene had not been as spectacular as that of the surging sand of sea beneath their feet.

Liu Jie suddenly felt that it was unsurprising that Lin Yuan had so many resources on hand.

By simply buying sand, one could make a lot of income in a day.

Lin Yuan realized that the Source Sand he had contracted either had treasure-hunting skill or was a money fanatic.

After swallowing the piece of land where the stronghold had stood, the Source Sand even found a lot of supplies.

Among these supplies were numerous golden discs that Lin Yuan especially needed.

Based on the Source Sand's feedback, the sea of sand had not swallowed any living beings.

Moreover, those golden discs had pretty much all been stacked together.

This was truly evil!

However, at this time, Lin Yuan did not think too much about it, as the dimensional hub of the evolving dimensional rift quickly appeared in his line of sight.

This was still considered Lin Yuan's first time seeing a dimensional hub.

For some reason, Lin Yuan found the dimensional hub familiar from a distance. No matter how he looked at it, it resembled the interior of his own Spirit Lock spatial zone. Morbius possessed the stone pillar carvings and the stone bowls on them, which had appeared after its Spirit Qi Condensation.

It was just that the container on the dimensional hub was much larger than the stone bowls in the Spirit Lock spatial zone.

Upon close inspection, Lin Yuan found that there were nine source-type items and one unknown circular seven-colored light within the dimensional hub's container.

Liu Jie could finally release his breath now that they were closer to the dimensional hub.

"We finally caught up. There are nine source-type items in here, but even so, it is reasonable to say that there shouldn't be a Class 5 dimensional rift."

As he spoke, Liu Jie also turned his gaze to the circular seven-colored light.

After looking at it, he immediately said with some uncertainty, "Seven colors? Might this not be a sacred source lifeform?"

Upon hearing Liu Jie bring up sacred source lifeforms, Lin Yuan's eyes fixed tightly on the circular seven-colored light.

Lin Yuan had already heard the Moon Empress and the Mother of Bloodbath mention sacred source lifeforms more than once.

However, when Liu Jie brought them up now, Lin Yuan did not feel any awe for this circular seven-colored light. On the contrary, he only felt terror.

Sacred source lifeforms were only produced in Class 5 dimensional rifts, and only one such lifeform was produced in each Class 5 dimensional rift.

Now, it was simply an earth-shattering conspiracy that a sacred source lifeform had appeared in a Class 4 dimensional hub that was about to evolve to Class 5.

When the dimensional rift evolved from Class 4 to Class 5, another sacred source lifeform was bound to drop.

In this case, with the energies of the two sacred source lifeforms stacked together, who knew how far this water world dimensional rift that had opened outside Indigo Azure City would develop?

Just as he was about to urge the Extreme Token in the Flowing Cloud pendant hanging at his chest, Lin Yuan thought that he saw a hazy phantom through his Genius mask.

Chapter 510: Lin Yuan, I Will Be Absent

Lin Yuan immediately turned his head and looked intently at the clearing where he had just seen the hazy figure before.

However, when he checked the spot again, he found that the figure had disappeared.

After checking it once over to no avail, Lin Yuan thought that he had been mistaken.

He inhaled deeply and focused all of his attention on the dimensional hub.

For some reason, Liu Jie, who was standing beside Lin Yuan, constantly felt a sense of danger lurking at all four sides.

Liu Jie was very familiar with this feeling. Previously, whenever he had encountered danger when practicing in the wild, this same feeling would arise.

This sense of crisis could be considered the combat intuition that he had developed after countless battles.

And now, Liu Jie only felt this sense of impending crisis grow increasingly intense.

Just then, he suddenly thought about the clearing that Lin Yuan had just turned his head to look at and realized that the latter must have felt the same inexplicable sense of crisis.

Liu Jie also turned his head to gaze at the same clearing.

As he cast this one glance, he felt his hairs stand on end.

He immediately let out a loud bellow.

“Lin Yuan, defense!”

Right after, Liu Jie ordered the four Shield Ladybugs that were on standby beside him to shield Lin Yuan from the front.

Liu Jie had caught sight of a shadowy figure that had suddenly appeared in the clearing.

And this figure had been launching a purplish-gray crystal directly towards them.

Upon hearing Liu Jie’s loud shout, Lin Yuan subconsciously directed the Source Sand to separate a large amount of feathers from the Close Guard Sand at his feet.

These feathers were made of Gold Day and Night Spirit Silver. Because Lin Yuan had changed their appearance, they now looked like Gray’s feathers.

At the same time, because the Source Sand had already been promoted to Fantasy II, Lin Yuan had added an extra cubic meter of Day and Night Spirit Silver into it.

Hence, when the feathers formed his four wings, they were denser, more agile, and more elegant than before.

At that moment, the four Shield Ladybugs hit the purplish-gray crystal that had been flying towards them.

After hitting the ladybugs, the crystal exploded on impact, and a terrifying energy fluctuation rippled outwards.

Seeing the situation, Liu Jie instinctively sent his Insect Queen, which had just recovered its fairy-like form, towards Lin Yuan without hesitation.

Each of Lin Yuan's four wings, which were nearly three meters long, had already spread.

Lin Yuan also instinctively protected Liu Jie under his four wings of Day and Night Spirit Silver.

Then, Lin Yuan channeled spiritual power into his wings.

Their original ink color, which was so dark that the wings had seemed to be able to absorb light, turned into a shining white in an instant.

At that moment, Liu Jie was facing Lin Yuan.

Seeing Lin Yuan inhale deeply, Liu Jie revealed a smile that came from the bottom of his heart.

He said softly, "Lin Yuan, I made an appointment with you and Wen Yu before. Unfortunately, ten years later, I will be absent on the grass."

Before Lin Yuan could respond, Liu Jie had already turned away resolutely. He first reached out to stroke the Insect Queen lovingly before shouting firmly at it, "Transform into producing form! Use the exclusive skill of Swarm Frenzy on yourself!" "

Following Liu Jie's instructions, the Insect Queen inflated itself.

However, this time, the insect base that the Insect Queen turned into had a height of two meters.

On its body, a layer of energy flame still burned from the energy that it had recovered from exploding its entire insect swarm.

The Insect Queen was also resolutely fulfilling Liu Jie's order. A red halo immediately appeared on its body after it had performed Swarm Frenzy on itself.

At that moment, Lin Yuan felt the extent of the purplish-gray energy that was bombarding his four wings of Day and Night Spirit Silver.

In a mere instant, even his wings, made of such a sturdy Gold metal, were blown to pieces by this energy.

Immediately after, this ray of purplish-gray energy blasted the insect base's body.

As his four wings of Day and Night Spirit Silver had already been exploded into pieces by that energy, Lin Yuan was now completely exposed in the open.

Liu Jie, who was shielding Lin Yuan from the front, fiercely pushed Lin Yuan out of the way.

Subsequently, that purplish-gray energy blasted a huge hole in the Insect Queen's insect base.

At the same time, the spreading purplish-gray energy also mercilessly blasted the Insect Queen from behind and continued towards Liu Jie, who was pushing Lin Yuan away.

Everything happened in the blink of an eye.

Liu Jie did not even have the time to say more to Lin Yuan before he was struck by that ray of purplish-gray energy.

However, Liu Jie's act had already expressed everything that he had not had the chance to say in words.

Lin Yuan was pushed close to ten meters away by Liu Jie and fell unceremoniously onto the churning sea of sand.

Lin Yuan immediately dashed to Liu Jie's side after standing up.

Seeing Liu Jie and the Insect Queen's condition, Lin Yuan felt a rush of blood surging towards his head.

His eyes instantly turned red.

At that moment, the Insect Queen returned to the state that Lin Yuan had first seen it in. It was now a purple flesh cocoon that was roughly the size of a fist.

On this purple flesh cocoon, a hole had broken through the surface, from which a lot of purplish-gray fluid oozed out.

After being bombarded with that purplish-gray energy, all that was left of Liu Jie's entire body was its torso.

Half of the shoulder on its torso was also mutilated, and like the Insect Queen, a large amount of purplish-gray fluid was streaming out of the wound.

It was clear that the purplish-gray energy's attack had carried with it a terrifying poison.

At that moment, the gray figure in the distance revealed itself. He was wearing a satisfied expression on his face.

He elegantly strode over as though he had just finished watching a movie.

His gray eyes looked at Lin Yuan and Liu Jie, who were lying on the ground. He smacked his lips and chuckled.

"What a heroic show of brotherhood! This time, it should be accompanied by a glass of wine to be savored fully!"

“Despite your evident lack of strength, you could still withstand the strength of a Suzerain fey’s attack. I should congratulate you.

“However, you won’t be so lucky any longer, because your end is here.”

With that, the gray-haired, gray-eyed man summoned a giant hound with three ferocious heads with the wave of a hand.

The instant the hound appeared, it let out three terrifying roars.

The gray-haired, gray-eyed man said to himself, “I had initially feared that my own strength would be insufficient. However, now it looks like I, Hunting-Ashes, was destined to be able to complete Lord Seventh Page War’s decree.”

Lin Yuan was not concerned about the gray-haired, gray-eyed man or the giant three-headed hound that he had summoned.

His eyes seemed to seep blood as he summoned Jasmine Lily with a wave of his hand. Then, he removed the Vitality Imprint on his forehead, which contained a tremendous amount of vitality.

Simultaneously, he urged the Extreme Token that the Moon Empress had given him.