Chapter 1051: Overly Advanced Artificial Intelligence

With this thought in mind, the majority of the over one thousand rat soldiers stood up.

With Leaf and the other twenty-nine veterans handpicked by Meng Chao in the lead, they gathered into a scorching torrent and rushed toward the training camp's entrance.

The eyes of the domestic rat soldiers who were staring at Brute Hammer emitted a faint light.

The domestic rat soldiers of Brute Hammer were like stray dogs whose spine had been broken. They could not even stand up straight.

They were terrified and asked, "What, what do you want to do? Aren't you afraid of death?"

"Humph, even your master was beaten up by Night Demon. You lackeys, what are you still so arrogant for?"

Spider hid in the crowd and said in a strange tone, "Be careful. When the Blood Hoof Army returns to the city, you will be buried with Brute Hammer!"

This sentence made all the rat soldiers' faces turn pale.

The Turan civilization did not have the tradition of being buried with Brute Hammer.

After the glorious warriors died, they had to go to the sacred mountain where they fought eternally during the day and reveled eternally at night to join the ancestral spirits.

And the lowly rat people obviously did not have the right to enter the sacred mountain after death.

Since they did not belong to the same destination, there was no point in being buried with brute hammer.

However, their master, Brute Hammer, was seriously injured and most likely lost most of his fighting strength.

He was also branded with such a humiliating mark on his forehead by the night demon. He would probably never be able to raise his head in the circle of glorious warriors.

These domestic rat soldiers could no longer serve Brute Hammer.

If they were transferred to someone else, they would naturally not be able to continue serving as soldiers of a higher status than the other rat people.

They would most likely become cannon fodder. Sooner or later, they would have to face the minions of the Lions and tigers, the arrows of the elves, the cannons of the dwarves, and the magic of the holy light humans.

At the thought of this, Brute Hammer's personal domestic soldiers were full of bitterness. How could they still have any desire to fight?

"If you don't want to die, then charge out with us!"

Leaf took the opportunity to encourage them, "If you stay in black-corner city, you personal soldiers who fail to protect their master will only die. However, if you fight for the Rat God and the rat people, we, who have received harsh training and are skilled in combat skills, will definitely find a way to survive!

"Don't hesitate. The tradition of the Turan people is to submit to the strong. Look at how miserable Brute Hammer is. Is he really worth your loyalty?"

Many of Brute Hammer's domestic rat guards lowered their heads and looked to the sides.

Only a few of them remained where they were, gritting their teeth.

There were only a few dozen of them.

Now that things had come to this, Leaf did not waste any more words. He snorted coldly and strode forward, ramming straight toward the captain of Brute Hammer's personal guards.

The captain of the personal guards had actually heard of this youth who was "Born with godly strength".

However, he was still deceived by Leaf's baby face.

Just as he was about to draw his saber, leaf suddenly accelerated and crashed into his arms at lightning speed.

With a bang, the two sides crashed into each other.

One had to know that most of Brute Hammer's personal soldiers were as tall and strong as him. They were also wearing well-made metal armor, making them look like statues made of copper and iron.

Although Leaf had gained more than ten pounds of muscle under Meng Chao's modification, he still looked tall and thin because his body size was like a bamboo shoot after a spring rain.

Just by looking at the comparison of his body size, everyone thought that Leaf would hit an iron plate and bounce back.

Unexpectedly, the result was that the captain of Brute Hammer's personal guard grunted and was sent flying more than 10 arms away. He crashed heavily into the wall and once again let out a muffled sound of broken bones and tendons. He slid down unsteadily and collapsed on the ground, he stopped moving.

At the moment of the collision, Leaf's eyes and hands were quick. He pulled out the broadback battle saber at the opponent's waist and took advantage of the opportunity to chop down ruthlessly, creating two visible ripples in the air. "Buzz! Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!"

The gaze of the rat youth rode on the ripples and shot toward the other die-hard members.

These guys did not expect that Leaf, who looked like he was still wet behind the ears, had such astonishing strength.

They swallowed with difficulty. Before their brains could react, their legs could not help but tremble and go soft.

"Let's go!"

Leaf raised his head and puffed out his chest, waving his saber. "Next, we will fight for ourselves!"

...

Meng Chao stood at the highest point of the roof of the training camp. Under the shadow of the smoke, he watched as Leaf rushed out with a large group of rat militia soldiers.

The growth rate of the rat militia youth was faster than he had imagined. Perhaps he could look forward to this seed that he had casually planted growing into a towering tree in the near future.

Although a mere tree could not change the future.

But if a hundred, a thousand, or even ten thousand trees were gathered together, perhaps they could change the world and create a New World?

"I've finally sent Leaf and the others away. Next, I can happily... let loose some wild things!"

Meng Chao's gaze passed through the chaotic blood skull arena and landed on the burning black-corner city.

He grinned under the mirror-like, circular, honeycomb-shaped light holes and the unadorned mask.

He tapped his toes lightly and leaped into the air, silently drawing a mysterious arc in the air surrounded by smoke. He surpassed Leaf and the others and landed right on their path. He roared and flew into a rage, the Blood Hoof Warriors who were brandishing their battle axes and heavy swords were trying to restore order behind them.

The Blood Hoof Warriors who stayed behind to guard the Blood Skull Arena, the old, the old, and the disabled, were no match for Meng Chao, who was gradually recovering his strength and stepping into the heavenly state again.

Against them, Meng Chao did not even need to use the curved sharp blade that extended from the back of his elbow.

With just a light slash with his hand, he could accurately grasp the gap between the back of their necks and their cervical vertebrae according to the subtle touch feedback of the totem armor. He would then precisely inject a surge of spiritual energy that was vibrating at a high frequency into them, he would shatter their cervical vertebrae.

It would cause their cervical vertebrae to dislocate and they would collapse onto the ground, unable to even cry out in alarm.

If they did not want to be paralyzed for the rest of their lives, these guys could only lie still on the ground and wait for the Witch Doctor's rescue.

At this moment, the blood skull arena was the best hunting ground for the ghost assassins.

Meng Chao consecutively knocked down more than ten blood hoof warriors, successfully opening a green passage for Leaf and the others to rush out of the Blood Skull Arena.

He did not let the other party see his true colors, let alone let the other party successfully wave his sword at him once.

In fact, compared to these blood hoof warriors who had lost their arms and legs, it was the totem armor itself that brought him more trouble.

"Kill him! Kill him! Kill him!"

When he ambushed the Blood Hoof Warriors, the totem armor kept stimulating his auditory nerves, as if hundreds of bloodthirsty flies were clamoring by his ears.

In his vision, there were also all kinds of stimulating and seductive sound, light, and electricity effects, such as marking the fatal points of the Blood Hoof Warriors with shiny arrows to lure him to attack.

His dopamine and Endorphin index also increased greatly out of control and soon broke through the limit, making him close to the abyss of Qi deviation again and again.

This made Meng Chao confirm once again that totem armor was an extremely dangerous ultimate weapon for a single soldier.

This was because it possessed a very advanced — perhaps too advanced — strong artificial intelligence operating system.

This strong artificial intelligence, which was infused with an incredible technology similar to liquid metal, could even continuously learn the thinking and fighting mode of each generation of its master, optimizing its own moves and tactics, it could simulate the image of past masters with the illusory and real acousto-optic effect.

That was the "Ancestral spirit" or "Battle spirit" that the advanced orcs worshiped.

In the end, with its battle wisdom that far surpassed the body of flesh and blood, it would subtly influence the new owner.

Gradually, the new owner would go from accepting its rationalization proposal, to obeying its every word, to completely releasing its will, completely becoming a puppet of the totem armor, a slave of the desire to kill.., a machine that only knew destruction and destruction.

In a word, the totem armor could indeed greatly increase the wearer's combat strength and battlefield survival ability.

But as long as the wearer wore the totem armor, the wearer would become the purest, most thorough, most extreme warrior, treating battle as the only meaning in life.

Meng Chao did not know how the ancestors of the advanced orcs could invent such a terrifying ultimate equipment for a single soldier.

He felt that the reason why the Turan civilization had declined to this day and was close to drinking raw meat and blood had something to do with the totem armors.

If the one-in-a-hundred elites of a civilization were only thinking about fighting and killing, and the ones who were responsible for all the work other than fighting and killing were the 'lowly rat people'.

How could such a civilization continue to develop and create greater glory?

In this sense, the totem armor and the mandala tree were the same.

They helped the Turan civilization to continue in a very extreme way, lasting for thousands of years, tens of thousands of years.

However, they locked down and even killed this civilization. Other than constantly launching wars and falling into a cycle of killing, everything else was possible.

Even though he was clearly aware of this.

Meng Chao still chose to drink poison to quench his thirst.

He believed that he could resist the negative effects of the totem armor.

He would only use the totem armor that was constantly evolving and becoming stronger to complete his mission of saving Dragon City.

Even if he really couldn't resist it.

As long as he could push the future of dragon city in the direction of "preventing destruction" by one meter, no, even by one centimeter or one millimeter, it would be worth it, right?

Besides, there was still the "Tinder"!

Meng Chao was surprised and happy to find that as he attacked everywhere in the "Game of the brave", he took advantage of the situation and took advantage of the situation.

After wolfing down more and more totem beast flesh and secret medicine concocted by the witch doctors.

While the blood vessels and spiritual veins were constantly filling up, the tinder, which had been sleeping in the depths of his brain for a long time, also showed signs of waking up.

Even though the Tinder still hadn't issued any new missions.

It was also unable to exchange for new skills.

But every time, when the strong artificial intelligence carried by the totem warframe flashed information in front of his eyes and kept making noise in his ears, the tinder would constantly shine and emit a strong light to help him defend his soul..., to stay awake.

Chapter 1052: Dual Form!

With the Kindling's help, Meng Chao felt that he could withstand the negative effects of the totem armor and would never become a puppet for slaughter.

At least, he felt that he could hold on until he completely changed the future.

As for whether he would suffer the backlash from the totem power after changing the future...

That did not matter.

Five minutes later...

Meng Chao appeared in the southeast area of the Blood Skull Arena.

It was the place where Casanova raised the totem beasts.

The artificially raised totem beasts could help the gladiators to temper their martial skills in the arena.

After slaughtering, they could also extract the totem power in their bodies and control the core.

It was a very important strategic resource for the Turan civilization.

Casanova had painstakingly operated the Blood Skull Arena for more than ten years. He had captured a large number of ferocious totem beasts from the deep mountains and dense forests, all of which were imprisoned in the arena.

In order to prevent the totem beasts from escaping, there were copper walls and iron walls all around this area and underground, with a large number of labyrinths and traps embedded in them.

However, in the series of large explosions that affected the entire city, the copper walls and iron walls were also shaken from the depths of the foundation, creating countless cracks.

Some of the totem beasts were crushed under the collapsed walls and roofs.

There were also some lucky totem beasts that broke through the twisted and deformed cage.

The surroundings were in a mess. The remains of the totem beasts were everywhere — some were crushed to death, but many were bitten to death, rammed to death, and pushed to death by their own kind. More than half of their flesh and blood were also devoured. The scene was too horrible to look at.

Meng Chao passed seven or eight corpses and knelt on one knee on the ruins.

"Swoosh!"

The mask that covered his facial features turned into liquid metal and was instantly sucked into his body, revealing his bright and spirited eyes.

He flapped his nostrils and looked focused, as if he was sniffing out the traces left in the air.

At this moment, a rustling sound came from behind him.

Meng Chao did not turn back.

According to the other party's aura, the sound of trampling on the ruins, and even the slight changes in the air convection caused by the huge body, roughly outlined the other party's shape.

It was a One-horned Bronze Bull.

It was the same type of monster as the Iron Armored Rhinoceros in Dragon City.

However, the totem beast was more powerful than the monster because of the solid armor wrapped around its body.

In particular, the deformed horn on the Beast's head was much larger than the collision horn of the Iron Armored Rhinoceros. It was simply a powerful siege hammer.

Ever since the One-horned Bronze Bull was captured by Casanova, it had been imprisoned there for a long time. The wildness and brutal killing intent in its blood had been boiling for a long time.

Seeing that Meng Chao had appeared within its hunting range, it immediately stomped on the ground with all four legs. It shook the siege hammer on its iron forehead and charged fiercely toward Meng Chao's back.

Its impact was even more powerful than Brute Hammer with Locomotive on.

Meng Chao, on the other hand, seemed to have eyes on his back. Just as his vest was about to come into contact with the enemy's siege hammer, he lightly tapped his feet and leaped up, turning a hundred and eighty degrees in midair. His head and feet were crossed, and then his arms were crossed. The Reaper's two scythe-like sharp blades formed a large pair of scissors, which gently cut the One-horned Bronze Bull's neck.

The One-horned Bronze Bull seemed to be struck by lightning. Its entire body convulsed, and the inertia caused it to roll down the ruins.

Its eyes were wide open. It struggled to stand up again, and a pink bubble with blood foam spurted out of its golden nose. Its four hooves, which were full of spikes, kept digging the ground. It still wanted to turn around and launch a second wave of attack.

However, on its neck, which was two to three times thicker than Meng Chao's thigh, a thin red line appeared in the gap between the two pieces of armor that were as hard as iron and finer than hair.

When it tightened the muscles all over its body and was ready to launch the second wave of attack like a cannonball, the thin, long red line also circled around its neck once. The two ends of the red line met successfully on its throat.

When it stomped hard on the ground and pounced toward Meng Chao with a momentum that could crack tendons. Its disintegrated cervical vertebrae, muscle groups, nerve bundles, and major arteries could no longer support its huge head, as well as the "siege hammer" that was even bigger than its head.

The One-horned Bronze Bull's head soared into the sky.

All the strength in its body was condensed in fresh blood. It shot out from the wounds on its neck that were as smooth as mirrors and sprayed out dozens of arms away.

This incomparably powerful totem beast did not even have the time to scream before it collapsed under Meng Chao's feet.

It was not until this moment that a drop of crystal clear beast blood rolled down from the two sharp blades that were as thin as cicada wings behind Meng Chao's arms.

The corners of Meng Chao's mouth twitched as he rejected the "reasonable suggestion" that the totem armor had thrown out, asking him to chop the corpse of the One-horned Bronze Bull into pieces, and even turn its skin and bones into meat paste.

He quickly stepped forward, wanting to harvest a few pieces of relatively complete flesh and blood, as well as the control core that was attached to the end of his spine.

Unexpectedly, a meteor hammer was one step ahead of him and heavily smashed in front of his toes.

If not for his quick reaction and the timely retraction of his feet, even with the protection of the totem battle armor, he might have been smashed several toes by the meteor hammer.

"Ankylosaurus?"

Meng Chao raised his eyebrows slightly.

Casanova Bloodhoof really had a lot of treasures hidden!

Meng Chao could not help but look forward to the next move more and more.

Shua shua shua!

The two scythe-like sharp blades drew out hundreds of sharp arcs of light, enveloping the Ankylosaurus.

Unfortunately, the Ankylosaurus' armor was more solid and tight than that of the One-horned Bronze Bull.

Accompanied by a series of "ding ding ding ding ding" sounds of collision, the crisscrossing of the sharp blades and the carapace had no effect other than producing dazzling sparks.

"The carapace of such a high-level totem beast is too thick. It's extremely difficult to break through its defense with just blades and swords!"

When Ice Storm was dealing with the Ankylosaurus, she took advantage of an opportunity. With her agile steps and ghostly figure, she dodged the other party and went behind it. She then found its heat dissipation hole in its lower abdomen.

Meng Chao, on the other hand, decided to use a simpler and more violent method.

When the Ankylosaurus swung its meteor hammer-like tail again, he took advantage of the opportunity to lightly tap on the hammer's spike. His entire body, along with his totem armor, was like a light, weightless withered leaf that floated back more than ten arms.

He was still in mid-air, while his arms had already crossed and hugged his shoulders.

Along with the continuous vibration and changes of the spirit magnetic field.

An unbelievable scene played out.

The totem armor on Meng Chao's body went from a solid state that was as hard as iron to a viscous and dense liquid state. After that, it solidified again, turning into a completely different appearance.

If one were to say that the totem battle armor that was engraved with a red ghost on the chest armor a moment ago was still like a Ghost Assassin that lurked in the dark night, walking a light, agile, and mysterious path.

At that moment, Meng Chao seemed to have doubled the amount of totem power surging out of his body, turning the light armor that was originally streamlined into a heavy armor that was full of power, as if it was possessed by a giant beast.

The light armor that was originally filled with smooth arcs, like countless water droplets fusing together, became sharp and angular after being infused with more totem power, as if it was stacking giant rocks together.

The two sharp blades that were standing high up from the back of his elbow, like the scythes of a grim reaper, fused into the expanded arm armor and extended all the way to the front end of the arm armor. It turned Meng Chao's arms into the combination of two meteor hammers, the Demon Subduing Pole, and the impact drill.

Even the red ghost pattern on his chest had turned into a ball of raging flames, as if it could burn everything.

Boom!

When Meng Chao waved his arms, the air was stirred.

His body was burning with golden battle flames, and the dust in the ruins beneath his feet had also exploded due to the high-speed friction, enveloping his entire body in a ball of tyrannical aura.

This was what Meng Chao had gained from the "Game of the brave".

The second form of totem armor!

If the first form was an assassin wielding a scythe and harvesting lives.

The second form was a berserker wielding a war hammer and smashing everything.

Theoretically speaking, as long as the totem armor contained different characteristics.

It was possible for it to take on different forms.

But in practice, because of the degenerative intelligence and rationality of the high-level orcs, it was difficult to accurately control the delicate changes of the spiritual magnetic field.

They rarely developed this ability of totem armor.

However, for Meng Chao, who came from the Dragon City civilization, or even from the Apocalypse and had a double soul, it was not a problem at all.

"Bang!"

The iron fist covered in heavy armor hit the head of the Ankylosaurus hard, causing the mountain-like behemoth to lift its limbs off the ground and rise into the air.

The second punch that followed was like a meteorite that had been blasted out of the ground by a volcanic eruption. It blasted the Ankylosaurus seven or eight times in the air from the bottom up.

However, its shell still did not crack.

The astonishing destructive power went through its shell and wreaked havoc in its head and internal organs, shattering its important organs.

When the Ankylosaurus landed on the ground again, its two eyeballs had been squeezed out by the huge internal pressure, and its mouth was spewing out lumps of steaming hot pus blood.

Meng Chao did not stop.

He clasped his hands together and crossed his fingers. The two war hammers combined into one and fiercely smashed the Ankylosaurus' head.

In just three strikes, a pit several meters deep was created in the ruins. The Ankylosaurus' upper body was completely sunk in, leaving only its twitching lower body and its tail, which was as messy as mud, still hanging outside. In a moment, it completely stopped moving.

Around the ruins, there were still some escaping totem beasts lying dormant.

However, after witnessing Meng Chao using such a brutal method to ravage two extremely ferocious totem beasts one after another, the monsters with extraordinary wisdom were all trembling in fear and curled up in the depths of the ruined walls, they prostrated under Meng Chao's surging killing intent.

Meng Chao did not have the time to harvest these lucky beasts one by one.

After quickly harvesting the high-value resources from the One-horned Bronze Bull and the Ankylosaurus, he continued to advance toward the depths of the cage where the totem beasts were imprisoned.

Very soon, he squeezed into the underground area that was filled with beast cages through a gap that was as thick as a palm.

Chapter 1053: Underground Rescue

The scale of this underground space was much larger and more complicated than the monster arena in Dragon City.

It should be a part of the huge underground city constructed by the ancestors of the advanced orcs.

Unfortunately, the dilapidation caused the collapse everywhere.

The continuous explosion of the marsh gas caused the cracks to continuously expand.

There were also a large number of totem beasts that were not killed by the explosion, squeezing out desperately through the cracks.

This place had become riddled with holes, with air leaking everywhere.

Meng Chao's body was stained with the blood of the One-horned Bronze Bull and the Ankylosaurus.

The strong smell of blood made most of the totem beasts too afraid to emerge from the darkness.

He crawled through one crack after another, his speed getting faster and faster.

His grasp of the direction was also getting more and more accurate.

Occasionally, he would encounter an iron wall. He would only need to take a few steps back and slam into it fiercely, and he would always be able to create a brand new tunnel.

Fifteen minutes later, Meng Chao stood in front of a wall that seemed to be at the end of the tunnel.

The Wall had a faint metallic luster. Its length and width were more than five arms, and its entire body was as smooth as a mirror. There was not even a single crack between the bricks. It was as if it had been cast in one piece.

Meng Chao clenched his fists and tapped lightly. A dull echo came from within the wall. It proved that even if the wall behind was not solid rock, the thickness of the wall was far more than one arm.

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and looked up, down, left, and right carefully.

Then, the totem armor on his left arm liquefied and changed again, from a war hammer to a sharp spike like a knight's spear.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

He aimed at the wall and instantly threw out over a hundred spears.

Each spear was accompanied by an extremely high frequency vibration and an extremely fast rotation, deeply cutting into the wall that was as hard as iron.

Hundreds of densely packed holes arranged into a two-meter square frame.

After that, he turned the spear into a war hammer again.

Taking a deep breath, the blood vessels that were as thick as a dragon protruded out from under the totem armor. Meng Chao aimed at the center of the frame and struck it fiercely.

Boom boom boom boom boom boom!

The two war hammers that were connected to the arms turned into two powerful pile drivers. Amidst the deafening noise, sparks flew in all directions, gravel flew and the entire tunnel began to tremble.

The wall that was thicker than two or three arms caved in at a speed visible to the naked eye along the outline of the spear.

It was as if Meng Chao's arms had turned into a bloody mouth that kept swallowing the rocks that formed the wall and the steel bars that were embedded in the rocks to strengthen the wall.

In just three minutes, Meng Chao had punched out thousands of fists.

The violent friction between the fist and the air, as well as the surging spiritual energy that was highly compressed to two extremely precise points, turned the kinetic energy into heat energy, but turned the armor that was wrapped around his arms into a glittering orange-red color, it was as if it had just been taken out of a steel furnace.

Finally, the seemingly indestructible copper wall and iron wall groaned in pain under the ravaging of Meng Chao's Iron Fists.

With the square frame outlined by hundreds of holes as the boundary, the bricks, rocks, and steel bars in the square frame all collapsed and fell to the ground.

Behind the wall, what appeared in front of Meng Chao was a secret cell that was neither big nor small.

In the center of the cell, a silver-haired woman with shackles on her hands, feet, and neck looked somewhat haggard, but her eyes were still as sharp as icicles. She was one of the four aces of the Blood Skull Arena, Ice Storm, who had the title of Frost Queen.

Meng Chao grinned and strode into the cell.

Ice Storm stared at the "berserker" armor on his body. It was very different from the style of the past, especially around the fists that had just destroyed the head of the Ankylosaurus and destroyed the iron wall.

Ice Storm raised his eyebrows.

"I keep telling myself that I can't overestimate you, a monster with a mysterious origin."

Ice Storm suddenly stood up and bowed to Meng Chao sincerely. "But I still realized that I've underestimated you again and again."

"It's all thanks to your reminder."

Meng Chao put the war hammers at the ends of his arms back into liquid metal and put them back into his body, revealing his five fingers.

He put his right index and middle fingers together and gently tapped the space between his eyebrows, causing the visor to merge into his body, revealing a brilliant smile.

He continued. "Fortunately, you have guessed Casanova's mentality. That shameless man will definitely not let you go. No matter how despicable he is, he will keep you here.

"That's why I thought of letting you soak your clothes and hair in the tracing powder, so that you can release a faintly discernible fragrance from your body.

"It is extremely difficult for others to notice the uniqueness of this fragrance. However, for me, who personally concocted the powder, as long as I breathe in a little bit of the corresponding powder into my nose and activate my olfactory cells, I am confident that I will be able to find you as long as you are still within the range of the Blood Skull Arena."

"Thank you. I owe you my life," Ice Storm said solemnly, stressing each word.

After pausing for a moment, she could not help but ask again, "However, how did you know that Casanova wouldn't move me away from the Blood Skull Arena?"

"It's very simple. It's because the Blood Skull Arena is a lair that Casanova has been painstakingly running for more than ten years."

Meng Chao's gaze swept past Ice Storm's empty back, but he did not dwell on the issue of Ice Storm's tail. He only said, "You are a rare commodity to be kept. Unless it's absolutely necessary, Casanova

won't share your secret with others. Even if it's a big shot in the Blood Hoof Clan, he wouldn't be willing."

Through the reflection in Meng Chao's eyes, Ice Storm could clearly see her own appearance.

She knew that at this moment, other than a pair of snow-white, round, and furry leopard ears on her head, she was almost no different from a human.

It made Ice Storm, who had been in Picturesque Orchid Lake for three years, feel insecure without any clothes on.

Thinking quickly, she gritted her teeth and said, "Didn't you notice that I don't have a tail?"

"Neither do I. So what?"

Meng Chao shrugged and spoke as if nothing had happened. "The tail is not important now. What is important is whether we can successfully escape Black-corner City and how many things we can take away before we escape.

"How is it? Are you seriously injured? Can you still fight?"

Ice Storm shook his head.

He raised his hands again, revealing the shackles engraved with earthworm characters on his wrists.

"My injuries are not serious, but this thing is troublesome. If I don't think of a way to get rid of it, I can't use my totem power," said Ice Storm.

Meng Chao observed carefully.

The mysterious characters curled like earthworms activated his memory fragments from his previous life, allowing him to know that this was a magic item from the land of Holy Light. It seemed to have the function of sealing totem power.

However, similar magic items often had the characteristic of a 'one-way defense'.

In other words, once an advanced orc was smashed into such shackles, it would be very difficult for him to break the seal inside the shackles from the inside out with his own totem power.

However, if he attacked from the outside, as long as he controlled his strength accurately and did not hurt Ice Storm's hands, he should have a chance to break the seal, or at least create a crack.

Of course, there were also seals that had a two-way defense that could not be broken from the inside or the outside.

Nevertheless, Meng Chao did not think that Casanova Bloodhoof would be able to obtain such a magical item.

Just to be on the safe side, Meng Chao put away his breastplate and took out a few small bottles from his chest.

He opened one of the small dark green bottles and first used a small brush made of a few feathers to bind it. He dipped it in a bit of sticky medicinal liquid that was as thick as honey and gently brushed it on the shackles around Ice Storm's left wrist.

Then, he took out a piece of tough and flexible animal skin that had just been peeled off from the One-horned Bronze Bull from his waist pouch. He stuffed it into the gap between Ice Storm's wrist and the shackle, covering her entire forearm and palm.

It was to ensure the safety of the next step of the operation.

Next, Meng Chao opened another small bottle that emitted a pungent smell.

A liquid-moving tube made of a hollow leg bone and a fish bladder extracted a few drops of dark red liquid from it and gently dripped it on the surface of the shackle that was smeared with dark green mucus.

The surface of the shackle immediately emitted a "chi chi chi chi" sound.

It emitted a pungent smell.

It also emitted a layer of dense, extremely fine foam.

The earthworm characters engraved on the shackle constantly flashed.

But the shining light was covered by the foam that kept spreading.

Soon, the shackles seemed to have been sealed for thousands of years. The surface was bumpy and mottled, and there was an ugly layer of rust under the foam.

"What is this?"

Ice Storm could not hide the surprise in her voice.

"Some kind of medicine that has a very strong corrosive effect on metal substances. However, it is not very toxic and corrosive to flesh and bones," said Meng Chao.

"Where did you get such a thing?" Ice Storm asked in disbelief.

"I extracted and refined it from the secret drug you gave me, the spoils of war I obtained in the game of the brave, and the chicken and dog scraps I bought in the rat market," Meng Chao said casually.

It seemed that concocting such a drug was a piece of cake, and that was indeed the case.

In his previous life, the Ghost Assassins had reached out to the entire Other World in order to defend the interests of Dragon City.

Whether it was the icy plain where the cold wind whistled eternally, the huge mausoleum deep in the rolling yellow sand, or even the Eternal Night Abyss, which was illuminated by the seven-colored flames, there were Ghost Assassins everywhere.

It was impossible to get effective supplies from their hometown as they were thousands of miles away from Dragon City. The Ghost Assassins were very good at using the local raw materials of the foreign world to create various combinations of earth and the Other World's dual styles, strange things.

Picturesque Orchid Lake was a close neighbor of Dragon City.

The people of Dragon City in his previous life naturally cracked and optimized the formulas of most of Picturesque Orchid Lake's secret medicines in their first attempt.

"The secret medicines that the clan warriors carry are all concocted by witch doctors and even priests with ancient formulas from tens of millions of years ago. How dare you extract and refine them at will?"

Ice Storm looked at Meng Chao in disbelief.

Meng Chao moved his lips.

He really wanted to say something about the so-called "concoction" of these witch doctors and priests. Even the street hawkers in Dragon City, who concocted fruit juice and soft drinks might be more technical than them.

However, these words were inconsistent with his usual plain and low-key persona.

Let's save it for another time!

Chapter 1054: Target, Blood Skull Temple!

Even so, Ice Storm could read his mind from his expression.

"Do you know that you look like a wizard right now?" Ice Storm said.

Meng Chao thought for a moment. Wizards seemed to be a special class in the land of Holy Light.

Compared with advanced orcs who were crazy about fighting, the mages, ascetics, and night watchers who were fanatical about true gods, and the more mysterious ancient tombs and abyssfolk...

Wizards were the most logical people in the entire Other World.

For Ice Storm to say, she was admitting that she was from the land of Holy Light.

Otherwise, she would never have identified a living wizard in Picturesque Orchid Lake.

"It's done."

Meng Chao observed the color and speed of the bubbles on the surface of the shackles and signaled Ice Storm to raise her wrist.

Then, he rearmed his arms and used his armored hands to firmly hold the two sides of the shackles. He exerted all the strength in his body and tried to pull them off with all his might.

As the blood vessels around his body bulged and roared like flood dragons, the severely corroded shackles became slightly deformed. Tiny cracks appeared around the curled earthworm characters.

"It's done!"

Ice Storm's voice was filled with infinite surprise.

She motioned for Meng Chao to let go, then raised her left arm and chanted something.

Wisps of ice-cold white gas spurted out of her jade-white arm and spun around the shackles at a high speed.

In a short while, the metallic luster on the surface of the shackles became as fragile as jade.

With a low growl, Ice Storm smashed the shackles on her left wrist onto the ground.

After being corroded by the secret medicine and hit by Meng Chao's strange strength, as well as Ice Storm's frost power, the shackles finally broke, turning into tens of thousands of tiny ice crystals.

"Phew..."

Ice Storm let out a long sigh of relief.

The cold air that had been suppressed for a long time gushed out from his left arm like a flood. Soon, his entire left arm was completely covered by the silvery-white armor.

Now that the seal on his left arm had been broken, the other four shackles were easy to deal with.

Meng Chao and Ice Storm followed the same pattern. In just ten minutes, Ice Storm was completely freed from the broken ice crystals on the ground.

Meng Chao threw the animal skin bag that he had taken from Brute Hammer's waist to Ice Storm.

The bulging bag was filled with the highest-grade secret medicine and high-energy nutrients extracted from the golden fruit.

Ice Storm recognized Brute Hammer's symbol on the bag.

She looked at Meng Chao in surprise, opened a bottle of secret medicine, and drank it in one gulp.

"What's going on outside?"

Her face turned a few shades of red, and she recovered a little bit of her strength before she asked.

Meng Chao gave her a simple introduction on the arrival of the Big-horned Rat God, which caused a series of big explosions in the marsh gas.

"The Big-horned Rat God's descent led the rat people to start a rebellion?"

Ice Storm frowned slightly and immediately said, "That's impossible. The series of explosions that I heard just now seemed to be chaotic, but in fact, they were very regular. They were coming from all directions, almost covering the entire Black-corner City.

"Moreover, the initial explosions were launched from dozens of locations at the same time. This means that the detonators are very skilled in digging and underground operations. Their knowledge and use of explosives have reached the level of first-class experts.

"Even if the dwarfs of the land of Holy Light carried out such an operation, they couldn't have done it better. Yet, you are telling me that this is a mess caused by a group of rat people?

"If the rat people had such an ability, they wouldn't have been enslaved by the five great clans for ten thousand years!"

"That's right."

Meng Chao felt that after he drifted to Picturesque Orchid Lake, he was very lucky to meet Leaf and Ice Storm, the two outliers among the advanced orcs.

Working with them, the strength of the battle was secondary. The key was that the way of thinking of each other was similar, and many problems could be seen through with a single point.

"The so-called arrival of the Big-horned Rat God naturally couldn't be a trick played by the rat people themselves."

Meng Chao said, "The rulers of Black-corner City have assumed that the entire matter is a conspiracy created by the Gold Clan. Although I intentionally gave to them the 'evidence,' which is absurd and laughable, it's still possible that they've hit the bull's eye by accident."

"Wait a minute. You knew that the rats will start a rebellion. Do you know who is hiding behind the Rat God?" A brilliance flashed in Ice Storm's eyes.

"The one who can get the most benefit from the resistance of tens of millions of rats will be the one who incites the rats to start a rebellion."

Meng Chao said, "However, before we escape Black-corner City, there's no need to dwell on this matter for the time being.

"Half an hour has passed since the series of explosions caused by the marsh gas.

"Based on my observation of the military training of the advanced orcs over the past few days, although most of the warriors of the clans are brave and fearless, it's a little difficult for me to ask them to form a strict battle formation.

"This practical battle drill and the upcoming Tournament of the Five Clans are to solve this problem.

"Before the problem was solved, dense explosions were heard in Black-corner City. The burning flames and the thick smoke of gunpowder covered the entire city. It was impossible for the warriors of the clans to gather their troops and regroup without a moment or two.

"Before they restored order and formed a tight battle formation, they could not rush into Black-corner City like a group of headless flies and restore order in a swarm of scattered soldiers.

"Otherwise, the messy situation will only become more and more chaotic.

"Even if they can form a battle formation and return to the city to quell the rebellion, they can only advance from the outside to the inside. I believe that suppressing the rat people who are determined to die among the burning ruins is not something that can be done quickly, even for the warriors of the clan.

"In short, I think that the Blood Hoof Army will need at least a day and a night to restore order in Blackcorner City.

"Of course, as long as they have a firm foothold in the outer city, they can send an elite squad of experts into the inner city to protect their ancestral homes, temples, and warehouses for strategic materials.

"Before that, we have about two to three hours to fish in troubled waters and do whatever we want in Black-corner City, which is extremely empty and chaotic."

"Then what are we waiting for?"

Cold flames were flowing out of Ice Storm's eyes. "Before I tear Casanova's throat apart with my own hands, let me collect some interest from him first!"

...

In the southwestern area of the Blood Skull Arena, stood a temple at the highest point of the terrain.

Like all the temples at Picturesque Orchid Lake, this temple not only offered sacrifices to the heroic souls of all the gladiators who had died in glory in the arena for thousands of years...

It also offered sacrifices to a large number of weapons that had been written down in the Blood Skull Arena's history.

Sharp blades that had once cut the throats of hundreds of totem beasts...

Fragments of totem armor worn by warriors who had won three hundred battles in a row...

A certain legendary figure who had made a name for himself in the Battle of Glory... Before he rose to prominence, he had been the training equipment for gladiators in the Blood Skull Arena, such as stone locks and stone axes.

It was said that these weapons contained extremely powerful ferocious souls.

Ordinary clan warriors could not control them.

Anyone who wanted to control these weapons would be stripped of their minds and turned into origin warriors the moment they touched them.

Therefore, they could only lie quietly in the temple and wait for the day when their true master would descend.

Besides offering sacrifices to heroic spirits and legendary weapons, the temple had another very important use.

It was used to upgrade totem armor.

It was said that every temple at Picturesque Orchid Lake had a temple core.

It was the blessing given by the ancestral spirits to the blood descendants.

It contained the wisdom of the ancestral spirits that was as lofty as a mountain, as deep as the sea, and wider than the endless starry sky.

Meng Chao was very interested in the temple of the high-level orcs.

He felt that if he went deep into the temple, he would be able to see the original appearance of the Turan civilization.

He would have a deeper understanding of the Turan civilization's essence.

From there, he would be able to find a way to transform the Turan civilization and turn the advanced orcs into a more reliable ally than in his previous life.

Of course, the legendary weapons in the temple were also something that he yearned for.

Only by obtaining these weapons that had been used by the Turan civilization's epic heroes could he grasp the most powerful power in the shortest time.

He would then finally be able to face the Wolf Clan's leader, "Jackal" Kanus, who was about to rise up and become the king of the Turan civilization.

He could decide whether to help or kill the Doomsday Wolf who had created the Chaos faction in his previous life and brought both the Turan civilization and the Dragon City civilization to destruction!

It was a pity that Casanova had always kept a close watch on Blood Skull Temple.

According to the testimony that Meng Chao had received from Big Buck, several teams of elite guards were arranged inside and outside the temple.

A large number of traps were also deployed inside using the technology of their ancient ancestors' spirits.

Casanova himself would always stay in the temple to cultivate for a long time when he had nothing to do. It was simply impossible to pour water into it.

Meng Chao was so anxious that he could not wait to get in...

Until today...

Until now.

Meng Chao and Ice Storm were crouching behind a piece of debris that was still burning with billowing black smoke. Half of their heads were poking out, and through the gaps in the thick smoke, they observed Blood Skull Temple not far away.

Due to the higher terrain, there were no sewage pipes below, and the external walls of the building were extremely strong.

Blood Skull Temple had not been damaged by the methane explosion.

However, Casanova had led the Blood Skull Battle Group out the city, where Black Horn Temple, which was larger and more ancient, participated in the oath ceremony and actual combat practice.

In order to let more of his beloved generals receive the blessings of the ancestral spirits in Black Horn Temple and to show his face before the powerhouses of dozens of battle groups...

He took away more than half of the guards.

The explosion that just happened in the other areas of the Blood Skull Arena, the escape and destruction of the totem beasts, as well as Leaf and the others leading a large group of civilian rat servants while breaking out of the cage, and the news that even one of the four trump cards, Brute Hammer, had been heavily injured, especially attracted more than half of the remaining guards away.

Now, in front of Blood Skull Temple, there were only two guards left.

Chapter 1055: First Line of Defense

Casanova Bloodhoof, or most advanced orcs, would never dream that someone would have designs on a temple.

First of all, every temple, no matter how big or small, as long as it received the blessing of the ancestral spirit, had a defense that far surpassed the clan's era.

Those who recklessly intruded would often die without knowing how.

Second, although the weapons, secret medicines, and ancient books enshrined in the temple had unparalleled power, they also contained extremely high risks. Even if they took away a weapon, it would be difficult to control it easily.

Third, the advanced orcs naturally had a reverence for their ancestral spirits who were close to gods.

Even the temples of rival clans and competing clans would not be easily destroyed.

Even if the enemy's entire settlement or tribe was wiped out, the temple wouldn't be completely destroyed.

Instead, the enemy's ancestral spirit would be incorporated into the ancestral spirit worship system of their own clan and continue to serve them.

No matter how crazy an advanced orc was, they would not take the risk of dying on the spot, becoming an Origin Warrior, being cursed by the ancestral spirit, or provoking a powerful clan to rob a temple.

Unfortunately, Meng Chao was not an advanced orc.

He and Ice Storm had already circled the Blood Skull temple, making sure there were no more guards and exploring the terrain behind the temple.

Meng Chao gestured to Ice Storm and signaled with his eyes. "Are your injuries okay?"

Ice Storm snorted and disappeared into the thick smoke.

Meng Chao stretched out five fingers and counted silently in his heart, "Five, four, three, two, one!"

When he counted to the last number, he suddenly stood up and took a crouching position to start running. Like a 100-meter sprint, he did not hide his intentions and rushed toward the two guards.

While he was still 100 meters away, the two guards felt a fierce hurricane blowing toward them.

The killing intent that seemed to be tangible completely froze their brains, hearts, and vocal cords, making them unable to even scream.

The two guards tried their best to overcome the fear in their hearts and barely raised their shields and swords toward Meng Chao.

However, Ice Storm had already landed silently behind them.

It also heavily slashed at their necks with the hand knives that were covered in frost.

The cold wave instantly invaded the cervical vertebrae of the two guards.

Along with the spinal cord, it froze their central nerves.

Even the necks of the two guards, who stood up like strong bulls, were thicker than Meng Chao's thighs.

After a muffled groan, they both fell to the ground. Their skin was purple and their faces were ashen.

After taking care of the two guards in an instant, Ice Storm was expressionless, but she raised her eyebrows at Meng Chao.

Meng Chao grinned and gave her a thumbs up.

The two of them dragged the two frozen guards into the ruined walls and hid them well.

They circled around Blood Skull temple at a close distance and carefully studied the outer wall of the temple to see if there was any flaw that could be exploited.

Obviously...

There were none.

The ground of the Blood Skull temple was like a red skull magnified a hundred times.

The dark eye sockets and the horns that shot up into the sky were all there.

The outer wall was also engraved with dense cuneiform characters that gave off an inviolable majesty.

If one closed their eyes and listened carefully, one could even hear the wild wind blowing through the dark eye sockets, giving off a sharp roar that sounded like the roar of a fierce soul.

Not only did it contain the fierce souls of the Gladiators who had died in the arena over the past thousand years.

It also included the Blood Hoof warriors who had died in the Battle of Glory thousands of years ago.

In fact, the history of the Blood Skull temple was even older than the Blood Skull Arena.

It was the ancient Turan people who first built this temple and worshipped a large amount of the precious resources, technology, and devices of the Turan civilization.

Thousands of years later, the advanced orcs often gathered in front of the temple for the gladiator battles to please their ancestors. Over time, it gradually formed one of the largest arenas in Black-corner City today.

Therefore, the temple itself was a hundred times sturdier than the arena.

It was definitely not something that could be broken by a simple and violent iron fist bombardment.

"Big Buck told me that the outer wall of the Blood Skull temple has received the blessing of the ancestral spirits and can reflect all attacks."

Meng Chao muttered as he gathered spirit energy in his right arm and punched the outer wall of the temple.

Boom!	
Hum!	

Boom!

Three loud noises were heard in succession.

When Meng Chao's fist made contact with the outer wall of the temple, the cuneiform characters embedded in the wall were all emitting dazzling brilliance.

Like hungry piranhas, they absorbed all the energy that was spurting out of Meng Chao's fingers.

Then, countless glittering cuneiform characters gathered together and formed a fist that was even bigger than Meng Chao's head, aiming at his chest.

Meng Chao was already prepared and hurriedly crossed his fists.

However, he was still bounced back by the fist, shattering his stance and sending his body flying.

He nimbly turned in the air four or five arms away and landed lightly on the ground. He rubbed his sore and numb arms and secretly clicked his tongue.

Seeing this, Ice Storm pondered for a moment, then stepped forward and gently pressed her arms against the outer wall of the temple.

As the runes on the totem armor flickered, two waves of cold blue waves gushed out from her palms and gradually spread out, freezing the entire wall that was two square arms.

The cold blue frost was suffused with a pale luster, as if it had changed the texture of the wall, turning it into glass that would shatter at the touch.

Ice Storm turned around and was about to tell Meng Chao, "You try again."

However, Meng Chao's expression changed, and he anxiously said, "Be careful!"

Ice Storm's pupils suddenly contracted, and an ice path appeared under her feet. Her body turned into a blue lightning bolt, and in one breath, she slid more than ten arms away.

Almost at the same time, the blue frost on the outer wall of the temple instantly shattered with a bang, turning into countless ice needles that shot toward Ice Storm like a blizzard, clanging and landing at her heels, a short distance away.

The two looked at each other. They were both shocked by the extraordinary power of the ancient Turan people.

"It seems that it's impossible to break through the wall."

Meng Chao said, "According to Big Buck, all the temples of Turan were built by the ancestral spirits using supreme divine power and were buried underground. Otherwise, they would have naturally sunk underground after thousands of years.

"In other words, the surroundings of the temples are all made of the same material. It's impossible to dig three feet into the ground and break through from the bottom of the temples.

"Besides, we don't have so much time to dig a tunnel out slowly.

"Then we can only go through the main door."

The two of them walked around the huge skull and opened its mouth.

They took a deep breath at the same time, and worked together to push the thick and heavy door that was carved with cuneiform characters, as if it was made of a whole piece of rock.

The door was not locked.

But it seemed to be sealed by a viscous force.

The two of them gritted their teeth, and pushed for a full half a minute before slowly pushing open a crack.

With the help of the blazing fire, they could vaguely see that there was a long, sloping path inside.

The totem power that was emitted from the depths of the path made the two of them feel as if there were dozens of totem beasts lurking in the darkness.

The two of them activated their masks, covered their noses and mouths, and walked into the depths of the temple without leaving any gaps.

The flames that flowed in through the gaps in the door behind them had already been silently swallowed by the darkness.

However, the wall in front of them automatically lit up balls of dark red flames, reflecting the meandering path.

It was as if they were walking in the intestines of a giant beast.

Meng Chao carefully observed the wall and found that there were huge reliefs carved on the wall.

They were all kinds of ferocious and ferocious totem beasts.

The red flames that extended all the way were the eyes of the totem beasts.

He reached out his finger and lightly touched it, but he did not feel the slightest temperature from the red flames.

However, his spirit meridian faintly reacted and sensed a strange force invading his body through his fingertip.

It seemed that the eyes of these totem beasts were not real flames.

Instead, they were some kind of magnetic field restraint and spirit energy release devices.

Therefore, they could overcome the erosion of tens of millions of years and continuously ignite and extinguish themselves.

"The ancient Turan people's creation is indeed something."

Meng Chao retracted his finger and flicked it lightly, forcing out the xenogeneic power that had invaded his body and accurately reflected it back into the red flames.

Ice Storm continued to move forward. Soon, after passing through a small round hall, the path ahead became smooth and spacious.

However, on both sides of the spacious path, there were two rows of statues.

The black statues looked like a mixture of black iron and obsidian.

They both had the luster of metal and the texture of rock.

There were more than a hundred statues in total. Their average height was between three to four arms. With vivid strokes, more than a hundred Blood Hoof warriors that were literally strong and muscular had been carved out. They were extremely valiant.

They were all Minotaurs, wild boar men, elephant men, centaurs, and some hippo warriors as well as rhinoceros warriors.

They were all wearing armor.

The bulging muscles all over their bodies seemed to be bursting the sturdiest armor from the inside out.

In their hands, they were holding axes, hammers, great swords, and sabers. They were crossing each other in the air, forming a shining corridor.

Although they were cold, dead objects.

They were emitting a strong killing intent and fighting will.

Meng Chao activated his extraordinary vision. He could even see smoke coming out of the 'statues'. The smoke gathered in their eyes as if they were staring at two uninvited guests.

"The weapons in the hands of these statues seem to be real weapons."

Ice Storm silently walked to the first statue and carefully observed it for a moment before coming to a conclusion.

"They are real weapons."

Meng Chao said, "These are all ancient warriors of the Blood Hoof Clan. Many of them have made great contributions in the war that created the Blood Hoof Clan. That's why they are qualified to be worshipped here, and they form the first line of defense in the temple's protection."

Ice Storm nodded and asked, "Then, how can we pass through this line of defense?"

"If we have permission to fight the Blood Hoofs, we just need to walk past the swords, spears, and halberds in the hands of hundreds of statues."

Meng Chao said, "If we don't, we also need to walk past them."

Ice Storm was slightly stunned, and she said, "What's the difference?"

"The difference is that with permission, these statues will just be motionless statues. The swords, spears, and halberds hanging above your head will never fall."

Meng Chao added, "Without the permission, I don't know... Anyway, no one has tried it in the past one to two hundred years."

Chapter 1056: Not a Big Problem

Ice Storm cursed in a low voice.

"You don't know how to crack this mechanism?"

Meng Chao said, "I thought that as one of the four trump cards of the Blood Skull Arena, Casanova must have brought you to the Blood Skull temple, so you've probably seen all kinds of mechanisms."

"I did come here a few times, but Casanova made me wear a special mask each time. After wearing it, not only were my five senses cut off, even the concept of time was blurred. By the time I took off the mask, I was already at the core of the temple."

Ice Storm explained, "Since I didn't receive Casanova's blood and I'm not an official member of the Blood Hoof Clan, I'm not qualified to know the secrets of the temple."

After thinking for a while, she spread out her fingers, and blue palm lines appeared on her palm, which looked like a small whirlpool. It absorbed a lot of water from the air and condensed into a few frost flowers on her palm.

She curled her fingers and flicked them lightly. The Frost Flowers flew toward the corridor formed by two rows of statues at different speeds.

When the first frost flower touched the arm of one of the statues.

With a few light cracking sounds, crisscrossing and shining patterns appeared on all the statues.

It was as if the nerves and blood vessels that had been blocked for thousands of years had been reopened, and all the statues had been "Resurrected"!

Whoosh!

The statue of the Minotaur warrior waved its huge sword and swept across the entire corridor, slashing out dazzling sword rays.

Boom!

The statue of the wild boar warrior smashed its heavy war hammer down, causing Meng Chao and Ice Storm, who were outside the corridor, to feel their legs go numb.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

The statue of the Centaur warrior controlled the genuine longbow and shot out three arrows in a row like a cannonball. The arrows were continuously nailed into the gaps between the sword rays. There were only a few places where they landed.

The largest statue of the barbarian elephant warrior pounced forward and almost blocked the entire passage.

Guided by the mechanism, the hundreds of statues hacked crazily for more than half a minute before returning to their original state. The shining patterns on their bodies gradually dimmed.

At first glance, nothing had happened.

However, there were traces of sabers, swords, axes, and hammers on the ground.

Furthermore, Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and observed the ground. He discovered that there were actually thousands of densely packed traces on the ground.

However, other than the hundreds of traces created by Ice Storm's frost flower, most of the traces had been left over from thousands of years ago. After repeated friction and erosion, they were as thin as hair strands. In the beginning, they did not notice it.

The two looked at each other and saw the shock and solemnity in each other's eyes.

"These statues seem to be made of very special metals and rock materials. Maybe they even used a lot of materials to cast their totem armor, which contained violent totem power."

Ice Storm frowned deeply and said, "The gallery is so long. Once the mechanism is triggered, even if we can force our way through, we will have to pay a huge price."

Meng Chao fell into deep thought.

He realized that when the statues were hacking crazily, the mechanism that was operating and controlling the statues seemed to make a strange sound.

"Use the method you just used and try again," he said to Ice Storm.

Seeing his serious expression, Ice Storm did not say anything else. He spread out his hands, condensed dozens of frost flowers, and shot them out at the same time.

When the hundreds of statues began to work again, Meng Chao closed his eyes.

However, he focused all his spirit energy and attention on his ears, stimulating his eardrums, cochlea, and auditory nerves to the point that they were extremely sensitive. It was as if they could pierce through the earth and sketch out what was underneath the statues through the feedback of the sound waves, the details of the traps.

This time, when the statues calmed down again, he had a good idea.

"The mechanisms in these statues are a little awkward and slow to operate."

Meng Chao opened his bright eyes and said to Ice Storm, "It should be because after thousands of years of erosion, the gears, bearings, and engines inside have more or less been damaged. In short, if I'm not wrong, the sensitivity of these mechanisms must have been greatly reduced. As long as our movements are gentle enough, it's possible to walk straight over without triggering any of the statues."

"Engine..."

Ice Storm was used to hearing strange words from Meng Chao's mouth.

Nevertheless, she still understood the meaning of the second half of the sentence.

"Are you sure you want to walk straight over there?" Ice Storm asked suspiciously.

"Basically, yes," Meng Chao answered.

He had seen similar mechanisms in Ruins No. 1 at the center of Dragon City and Ruins No. 2 in the Hidden Mist Domain.

In Ruins No. 1, he had stayed as a "tester" for half a year. He had figured out a large number of ancient era mechanisms and unlocked the riddles within.

At the same time, he had also learned a lot of knowledge about mechanisms, mazes, and riddles from the predecessors of the ancient ruins research center.

He knew that most of the mechanisms left behind by the ancient civilization were almost flawless when they were first deployed.

At the very least, it was impossible for the Earthlings to crack them with their current technological level.

But time was still the most powerful force in the universe.

Even the Ancients or mother could not resist time.

No matter how precise, perfect, or terrifying the traps were when they were deployed, they would inevitably be eroded, worn, weathered, and deformed after being activated and used countless times over tens of millions of years.

The energy source used to drive the mechanism might also be annihilated, or the change of the planet's magnetic field would cause the output of spirit energy to be unstable, eventually damaging the power core.

That was especially so when Dragon City crossed over to the Other World.

It had triggered a large-scale phenomenon of spirit magnetic interference inside and outside Monster Mountain Range.

It was like throwing a ten-thousand-ton boulder into a calm lake.

The waves it created were enough to tear apart the duckweed that was originally floating on the surface of the lake.

Therefore, when the Earthlings explored the ancient ruins, they discovered that many dense structures, profound principles, and powerful mechanisms had all been destroyed from the inside.

It was easy for the Earthlings to obtain the power of the Ancients that was contained within. With it as a foundation, they developed the unique spirit martial arts, genetic technology, and runic technology of the Dragon City's civilization.

Picturesque Orchid Lake was so close to Monster Mountain Range.

It was impossible for it to not be affected by the same thing.

Meng Chao had just used the acute hearing that Lu Siya had imparted to him, which made him resemble a Spirit Sensor. He could hear the strange sounds coming from within the mechanism in front of him. It was similar to the strange sounds coming from Ruins No. 1 in Dragon City, where many heavily worn mechanisms were emitting strange sounds.

Hence, he judged that this mechanism was not as terrifying as it appeared to be.

As long as he found a suitable method, he should be able to walk past it effortlessly.

"Of course we can't just walk past it."

Meng Chao thought for a moment and said to Ice Storm, "However, the reason why the ice-cold statue can sense intruders is because it can detect our breathing, heartbeat, body temperature, and footsteps.

"Since the mechanisms inside the statue have been seriously worn out, its perception and reaction speed have slowed down a lot.

"Therefore, as long as we can lower our breathing and heartbeat to the maximum, and our body temperature to the same level as the surrounding temperature, we should be able to walk through it without making any noise."

Ice Storm frowned.

She looked at the serious Meng Chao, at the sculptures that were full of killing intent, and all the way to the corridor that led to the depths of the darkness.

She had an expression that said, "Are you f*cking lying to me?"

"Trust me."

Meng Chao continued. "With your strength, controlling your breathing and heartbeat shouldn't be too much of a problem. As for you, who has the bloodline of a panther, walking around stealthily is simply a racial talent. As for your body temperature, it's even less of a problem. After all, you're already as cold as an ice mountain, and your entire body is cold. There's no need to continue cooling down. Instead, you should slightly raise your temperature, and it'll be fine as long as it's the same as the air.

"Also, don't be nervous when you walk over. Try to empty your mind and relax. Don't worry about how strong and fierce the statues are. Just take it as if you are strolling on the grass.

"Otherwise, the disturbance of the brainwaves and the spirit magnetic field may trigger the statues.

"Basically, it's all routine operations. It shouldn't be a big problem for you, right?"

Ice Storm continued to glare at Meng Chao.

Her face was filled with an expression that said, "Not a problem? Give it a try then!"

However, Meng Chao did not notice her expression.

That was because he had already walked towards the corridor that was made up of hundreds of statues.

Before Ice Storm let out a cry of surprise, Meng Chao had already steadied himself and quietly stepped into the corridor.

No, the word "step" was not precise enough.

In fact, Meng Chao had "slipped" into the gallery.

With each step, when the soles of his feet were about to touch the ground, as the muscles around his body surged like waves, the tip of his feet made a slight movement forward.

When they connected, it was as if he did not move his legs at all. Instead, he stepped on the invisible banana skin and slid forward.

At the same time, Ice Storm was surprised to find that she could not find Meng Chao.

A living person would have breathing sounds, heartbeat sounds, blood flow sounds, body temperature, and body odor even if they were stuck on the ground.

An expert like Ice Storm did not even need to open her eyes to firmly lock onto her target with these extremely minute information.

Now, Ice Storm could clearly see Meng Chao there.

Yet, she could not sense any information coming from Meng Chao's body.

It was as if a mere shadow or an illusion was gliding through the corridor!

And the mechanism that could be triggered by a little frost flower that had almost no weight was indeed not triggered by Meng Chao.

Seeing that Meng Chao had already glided through half of the corridor, all the terrifying statues holding knives, spears, swords, halberds, battle axes, and battle hammers remained motionless and ignored him.

In a moment, Meng Chao had really passed through the entire corridor without any effort, just as he had said!

Ice Storm was dumbfounded and in disbelief.

"Look, I was right. The mechanisms here are indeed seriously worn out."

Meng Chao waved at Ice Storm from the other side of the corridor. "Hold your breath and heartbeat. Control your body temperature and voice, then walk over casually!"

Chapter 1057: Illusion Abyss

"Is it really that simple?" Ice Storm muttered to herself.

However, since Meng Chao had already passed, she would not show any weakness.

Ice Storm took a deep breath, and a thin layer of frost formed around her body. She lowered her breathing, heartbeat, and footsteps to their limits. It was as if she was stepping on snowflakes that were as thin as cicada wings while she silently stepped into the corridor.

Sure enough, the statues on both sides did not move at all, as though they could not sense her existence at all.

Ice Storm really wanted to swallow a mouthful of saliva.

However, she was afraid that the contraction of her throat muscles would trigger the reaction of the statues.

She copied Meng Chao's actions and slid into the depths of the gallery as gently as possible.

At first, it went very smoothly because right then, she had just crossed three or five statues, and the starting point was still close.

Even if the statues really activated, she would be able to retreat instantly.

That gave her a sense of security that she still had a way out.

Her mind was relaxed, and her steps were naturally smooth.

As she went deeper and deeper into the gallery, though, she had already left the starting point thirty to fifty steps behind her.

If all the terrifying statues around her were to activate at that moment, she would have nowhere to escape.

Realizing this, Ice Storm's nerves were like a winch with thorns, slowly twisting and tightening.

The statues around her, in particular, were becoming increasingly ferocious, and their bodies were getting bigger and bigger. They were like cliffs that were leaning toward her and about to collapse, and they could bury her at any time.

Many of the statues held large axes and huge swords in their hands, and they were also blocking her way. They forced her to bend her body into strange shapes, squeezing out all the energy from every fiber of her muscles and making her stand on her toes. She only managed to pass through the crisscrossing gaps between the soul-stealing ultimate weapons purely by curling and bouncing her toes.

"Are you kidding me? Why did the Reaper look so relaxed when he walked over just now? It really seemed like he was strolling on the boulevard."

Ice Storm once again felt like she had been tricked.

Unfortunately, she had already passed through about half of the gallery and could not turn back anymore.

She could only clench her teeth and try her best to control her chaotic thoughts and her muscles that were gradually trembling as she walked through the road of death.

One step, two steps, three steps...

Ice Storm could gradually see Meng Chao's figure clearly in front of her.

Victory was right in front of her eyes.

However, at that moment, a statue of a barbarian elephant warrior was standing on the road that she had to pass through.

The barbarian elephant warrior was holding two giant axes.

Its long nose, which was full of thorns, pierced through the corridor.

If Ice Storm did not want to touch anything, it could only dive through the extremely narrow space between the giant axe and the long nose in a posture that was similar to a fish leaping forward.

However, with such a large movement, it was difficult for it to not make any sound and maintain its breathing, as well as heartbeat, at a level that was more than half the breath of a dead person.

A drop of cold sweat oozed from Ice Storm's forehead.

The cold sweat quickly condensed into crystal clear beads that rolled down from her forehead.

Ice Storm's pupils suddenly contracted, and she hurriedly reached out to receive the frozen sweat beads.

Her palm still had a slight downward cushioning movement, which prevented the extremely fragile sweat beads from breaking in her palm.

When Meng Chao walked there earlier, because the distance was too far and the light in the tunnel was too weak, Ice Storm did not clearly see how he had walk past the statue.

Meng Chao gestured and asked from afar while he also gave her an answer. "It was a run-up fish jump. It came from the middle."

"Can it be done?" Ice Storm was very suspicious.

"Be a little more careful. It should be possible. As I said earlier, these mechanisms are all seriously worn out. Their senses are very slow." Meng Chao gestured.

Ice Storm gritted her teeth.

She took half a step back and suddenly accelerated. With a nearly perfect leap, she actually squeezed through the gap between the giant axe and the long nose.

Moreover, she did not touch anything!

Her extreme joy was, however, dampened the moment she landed. Perhaps it was because she had used up too much of her physical strength during her initial stealth. Perhaps it was because she had been severely injured by Casanova a few days ago and her injuries had yet to fully recover, or perhaps it was because the two statues in front of her were too ferocious. Their fangs were about to grow out of their eyes, which then caused her to be shocked and her heart to beat faster.

Dup! Dup!

Ice Storm's chest lightly trembled twice.

Amid a burst of ear-piercing mechanical sounds, all the statues in the entire gallery immediately revived!

Whoosh whoosh whoosh!

Ice Storm heard countless sharp blades tearing through the air behind her.

Before her eyes, there was a flash of sword light.

The statue of the huge barbarian elephant warrior was about to smash her head with its two axes. At that unstoppable rate, if she was really hit, her bones would still be broken if she wore a totem armor, and she would sustain internal injuries!

During that critical moment, a pure white light appeared in the depths of Ice Storm's eyes.

As though a feather condensed from Holy Light had fallen, the flow of time in her vision slowed down by several times, giving her enough time to unleash waves of freezing fog toward the joints and base of the statue. She froze the statue's joints and the mechanisms in its base, delaying the speed of its attack, even if just for a second!

Taking advantage of the moment when the statues froze, Ice Storm transformed into a white lightning bolt and dashed toward the exit.

Krak!

Krak krakk!

Kranggg!

Most of the statues only froze for a second.

The next second, the frost that covered the statues cracked.

The more concentrated sword lights and arrows once again covered Ice Storm's head.

No matter how she moved between the statues, the area that was close to the exit would constantly be barricaded by three to five sharp blades.

Since her speed had reached its limit, there was no room for her to change her route. She could only brace herself and use her totem armor to ram into the statues' sharp blades.

The collision might knock her out.

Plus, no could say for sure if she would leave an arm or half a leg in the gallery.

Right at a critical point...

A series of dense, crisp sounds were heard.

It was Meng Chao, who was waiting at the exit. His hands turned into two clusters of gray fog and shot dozens of broken stones into the corridor.

He had picked up the broken stones outside before they went deep into Blood Skull Temple and got ready to explore.

They were ordinary in nature and were not made of solid materials.

The terrifying statues that were vibrating at a high speed upon contact with spirit energy immediately exploded into powder.

However, the statues could sense the intruders through sound, temperature, and vibration.

Meng Chao's dozens of broken stones accurately hit four or five statues that were attacking the Ice Storm.

The statues mistakenly thought that there was more than one intruder and more than one target to attack.

The statues immediately became chaotic.

Four or five great swords and giant axes that had been slashing above Ice Storm's head and limbs fell behind her, tearing a non-existent intruder into pieces.

Ice Storm seized the opportunity and leaped like a fish, rushing across the finish line.

Meng Chao immediately stood between her and the gallery. He threw punches with both fists, blasting out two storms and exploding four or five arrows that were aimed at her.

Soon, the gallery regained its peace.

Ice Storm was still in shock.

Her heartbeat and breathing were like springs that had been compressed to the extreme before being released all of a sudden. The feeling was extremely intense.

She panted for a long time with her face and ears looking flushed. Her eyes were still filled with disbelief and shock as she fixed her eyes on Meng Chao.

Meng Chao had already pushed open the second bronze door in front of him.

The door was engraved with a large number of patterns that seemed to be shining like the stars.

However, when the door slowly opened and the two of them quickly walked in, an endless abyss appeared before them!

That's right, behind the door was a small, sloping cliff. It resembled a high protruding fang.

Around the cliff, there was an endless void. It was covered by black fog that kept rolling. It was impossible to see how high, deep, and wide the abyss was.

Standing at the tip of the fang, Meng Chao and Ice storm were akin to two tiny ants facing an endless black ocean.

Only the gales that kept surging up from the abyss reminded them that if they fell, their bodies would be shattered into pieces.

Both Meng Chao and Ice Storm had mastered the ability to use the spirit magnetic field to resist gravity and float in the air.

Despite that, judging from the huge roaring wind, the intense airflow spurting out from the bottom of the abyss had obviously formed countless invisible swirls that contained extremely violent spirit energy.

In such a special environment, even if they had the ability to float in the air, it might not work.

If it did work, it would not last long enough to help them fly to the next exit deep inside the black fog either.

"How is this possible?"

Ice Storm cried out, "How can there be such a large abyss under Blood Skull Temple?"

It was indeed a rather incredible thing, because although Blood Skull Temple's overall structure was located underground, it was not too deep.

Based on the angle and distance they had covered, the place was at most ten to twenty arms underground, not more than twenty to thirty arms deep.

Moreover, Blood Skull Temple could not be too big.

After all, they were surrounded by the Blood Skull Arena's territory, and the arena itself had a huge underground space. It was used to imprison totem beasts and rat people had just been captured.

Looking up, the cliff above them was at least a few hundred arms away.

Looking to the left and right before they were swallowed by the black fog, their vision seemed to extend to a few hundred arms as well.

If there was a huge underground space under Blood Skull Temple with an area of several hundred arms multiplied by several hundred arms...

Forget the entire Blood Skull Arena being swallowed by the abyss, even half of Black-corner City would soon sink underground!

"What the hell is this..." Ice Storm's thoughts were a little all over the place.

"This is an illusion."

Meng Chao closed his eyes and curled his lips slightly. "Everything in front of us is an illusion."

"What?!" Ice Storm was shocked.

Chapter 1058: Down-to-Earth, Steadfast Faith

"Human perception can be manipulated. Whether it's vision, hearing, smell or touch, to put it bluntly, it's all the result of biological electric currents and neural information stimulating the brain."

Meng Chao narrowed his eyes and sized up the surging undercurrent and the howling gale of the abyss. "As long as the spirit magnetic field is sufficiently complex and the vibration of the psionic ripples is

sufficiently exquisite, it's possible to interfere with the brain waves of humans and create any illusion, causing people to fall into unimaginable worlds... or nightmares."

Ice Storm calmed her mind.

Her mother was a witch.

It was different from magic and divine spells that originated from Holy Light.

Witchcraft originated from the human heart, attempting to activate the power in the deepest part of the brain.

Therefore, wizards and witches also had a profound understanding of the human brain that far surpassed that of ordinary people.

After being reminded by Meng Chao, she immediately reacted.

However, she was still very curious. How could Meng Chao react faster than her.

Could he be a wizard too?

A wizard with black hair and black eyes. How interesting.

"How do you know?" Icy Storm asked with Bright Eyes.

Meng Chao Shrugged.

There were a lot of traps in the two Archean ruins in the monster mountain range. They were created by creating illusions.

Many of the demon gods created by the monster's main brain were also very good at mind control and illusion attacks.

After returning from the apocalypse, his soul had been tempered in the flames of the apocalypse. His brain had been greatly developed, and he was even immune to most of the mental attacks. In the fierce battle with the monster civilization, he gradually grasped the ability to see through illusions.

Meng Chao removed his helmet and knelt on one knee. He pulled a lock of hair from his head and brought it to his mouth to blow lightly.

The lock of hair immediately flew into the abyss.

It was swept up and down by the strong wind.

Then, it was sucked into the bottomless darkness and disappeared.

At first glance, whether it was the trajectory of the hair flying or the strong wind blowing at his face, the needle-like stinging pain was real.

But Meng Chao discovered that when he sent out the hair, his eyes and the depths of his ears had sensed extremely weak spiritual waves.

Two extremely weak spiritual energies had invaded his visual and auditory nervous systems respectively, interfering with his perception and forming a lifelike illusion in front of him!

"That's right, this is an illusion." Meng Chao confirmed again.

"Even if this abyss is really an illusion, how are we going to get there?" Ice Storm asked from the side.

"Maybe -"

Meng Chao Thought for a moment. "We can just walk straight to the Abyss when it doesn't exist."

"It can't be?"

Ice storm frowned deeply. "Just like before, we can just walk straight to the abyss — there won't be any unexpected incidents this time, right?"

"I don't think so."

Meng Chao muttered, "You should know better than I do the significance of the temple built by the Tulan civilization — firstly, to worship the ancestral spirits, and secondly, to test the blood descendants.

"The mechanisms in the temple are both to guard against intruders and to test whether the new generation of Tulan Warriors are qualified to inherit the power of their ancestors.

"Since it is a test, there must be a correct answer.

"You should know that in the whole of Tulan, the two of us are not too weak. If we can't pass the test even after racking our brains and using all our skills, how many people will be able to pass it?"

"That's true."

Bingfeng nodded in agreement, "After all, the scale of the blood skull temple is not too big, and its level is not too high. It is far from the main temple of the Blood Hoof clan and the main temple of the Blood Hoof clan outside black-corner city.

"As long as we receive Casavar's blood, many gladiators who are far inferior to me will be able to enter this place to offer sacrifices to the warriors of the past.

"There's no reason for us to be trapped in this nonexistent abyss."

"Indeed."

Meng Chao deduced based on his experience of exploring the Archean ruins, "As far as I know, similar mechanisms don't necessarily require astonishing combat strength or divine techniques to pass. Many times, the tests are instead some very basic abilities, as well as unknown things like 'opportunities' and 'potential'.

"Some ordinary people, even if they don't have the strength to truss a chicken, can still pass through the mechanisms in a daze and obtain unparalleled strength.

"Some people, even if they have mastered the ability to slay Tigers and slay dragons, split mountains and split rocks, ride the wind, and even control lightning, will still disappear into the depths of the mechanisms, and no one will be seen alive or dead.

"Considering that the level of this temple isn't high, we shouldn't complicate a simple problem. We should put ourselves into the identity of the lowest-level clan warrior and think about which aspect of our potential this abyss wants to test."

"How can we guess it?" icestorm blurted out.

"Not guessing, but thinking."

Meng Chao's mind raced, and he vaguely grasped something.

He asked icestorm, "Just now, when you saw this abyss for the first time, what kind of emotions emerged in the bottom of your heart?"

"This..."

Icestorm thought for a moment and said with certainty, "Fear, of course, is fear. This has nothing to do with strength. I think, when anyone first sees such a large-scale abyss, the first emotion that emerges from the bottom of their heart is definitely fear."

"That's right, it's fear."

Meng Chao snapped his fingers lightly. "I feel that this mechanism is testing our ability to overcome fear, which is also courage."

Icestorm's eyes lit up.

High-level orcs were the race that worshiped bravery the most in the entire Otherworld.

Moreover, they believed that courage had nothing to do with strength. It was something that came naturally to them.

"There's no need to be too strong in battle, only astonishing courage. In other words..." icestorm thought quickly.

Meng Chao was already one step ahead of her, stepping out of the cliff.

Ice Storm widened her eyes.

Just like how she had watched Meng Chao break into the first trap, she didn't have time to cry out in surprise.

Then, she saw the strong wind whistling in from all directions as Meng Chao stepped into the air.

However, it didn't disturb his life magnetic field and blew him into the darkness. Instead, it condensed into a stepping stone as thin as a Cicada's wing and as hard as iron under his feet!

The pitch-black stepping stone was not much bigger than Meng Chao's feet, and it did not reflect any light. At first glance, it was exactly the same as the surrounding darkness.

However, Meng Chao stood steadily on it and took a second step forward.

As expected, the whistling squall condensed into a second stepping stone in front of him.

Just like that, Meng Chao took seven steps forward in one go.

The squall continuously condensed into stepping stones under his feet, gradually extending into the sky above the abyss into a small path that was as thin as hair.

Meng Chao stood still as if he was standing in the void, turning his head to look at the ice storm.

The ice storm steeled its heart, stepping on Meng Chao's footsteps and also walking on the abyss.

The two of them looked straight ahead and took more than a hundred steps in one go, arriving at the center of the Abyss.

The Darkness was endless in all directions. It was like a raging wave of darkness that continuously squeezed their souls, making them feel extremely small and that they would be completely devoured by the darkness at any time.

The ice storm felt as if the world was spinning.

Finally, she could not help but take a glance at the abyss under her feet.

Even if she was rational, she was very clear that such a terrifying abyss could not exist under the blood skull arena.

Her senses and fear instincts were still screaming hysterically in the depths of her brain.

She swallowed hard and mumbled, "If... If all of this is an illusion, what is the real thing under Our Feet?"

"I don't know. Maybe it's a solid ground," Meng Chao said.

"In other words, we won't fall into the Abyss at all?"

Ice storm said, "Then, how should the mechanism punish those who are afraid and fail the test

"By controlling one's perception, the illusion might be able to kill people."

Meng Chao said, "Perhaps, a person who falls into the Abyss in the illusion will still be smashed to pieces. Of course, his bones were not smashed, but crushed by his muscles, which were tightened to the extreme.

"On the other hand, as long as you realize this and believe that you are walking on the right and solid path, you don't have to be afraid that you will be smashed to pieces.

"Look, the end is here."

Ice storm was slightly startled. When he looked up, he saw a cliff that looked like a tusk that was similar to the beginning appearing in the dark void.

"So Fast?"

The ice storm remembered that he had only walked through half of the abyss. When he looked up, he did not see anything floating in front of him.

This cliff seemed to appear out of thin air. It was extremely strange.

"Since the Abyss does not exist, as long as we have enough faith, the end point will appear at any time."

Meng Chao said, "Perhaps the second mechanism is only a few dozen steps long. We have been spinning in circles under the guidance of illusions."

Now, they were only three steps away from the finish line.

Three Black stepping stones silently appeared in front of them.

Each stepping stone was an arm's length apart.

This was a distance that even untrained rats could easily cross.

Meng Chao stood in front of the three stepping stones.

Gazing at the finish line that was so close to him, he pondered for a long time.

Then, he took a step forward.

Without hesitation, he stepped on the two pieces of void between the three stepping stones.

Ice Storm widened his eyes.

He thought Meng Chao had miscalculated the distance.

However, this was impossible. Although the dark stepping stones were almost merged with the dark void, it was indeed difficult to distinguish them.

However, the faint light on the cliff in front of him had already outlined the shape of the stepping stones.

Even when he had walked to the center of the Abyss and could hardly see any light, Meng Chao had not stepped on the wrong stepping stone.

How could he have made such a low-level mistake?

Then, something that the ice storm could not believe happened.

Meng Chao had clearly stepped into the void.

He was about to fall into an abyss that did not exist. According to his own words, his brain was controlled by an illusion, his flesh and blood were controlled by his brain, and his bones were forcefully crushed.

But he stood firmly on the void without a stepping stone!

Chapter 1059: The Last Guardian

"Since we firmly believe that the entire abyss under our feet is an illusion, it doesn't make any difference whether we step on the stepping stones accurately or not."

Meng Chao turned his head and said to Ice Storm, "If we step on the stepping stones cautiously throughout the entire journey, it means that we are still afraid. We don't absolutely believe in our own judgment.

"I think that this is probably not 'courage' that the ancestral spirits hope their descendants will have."

As he spoke, he took another heavy step toward the second piece of void.

He crossed the void and stepped onto the cliff that represented the end.

Ice Storm suddenly came to a realization.

She followed Meng Chao, stepped into the void, crossed the abyss, and reached the end.

In that instant, she only saw a blur.

It was like dark clouds rolling and turbid waves surging into the sky.

It was an endless dark abyss accompanied by howling winds.

Then, they all disappeared.

Behind them was only a room that was no more than thirty steps in length and width.

The floor was engraved with dense cuneiform characters, forming many mysterious and complicated talisman arrays.

All the talisman arrays were flowing with colorful lights, jumping around like flames.

From the looks of it, they must have stepped through the gaps between the rune arrays.

For some reason, they managed to walk hundreds of steps out of a room that was twenty to thirty steps long.

Ice Storm paid special attention to the ground beneath her feet.

In the last two steps, there were three rune arrays that were emitting scarlet light.

Meng Chao was "traveling in the void" and stepping on the empty space between the three rune arrays.

If they kept walking on the "stepping stones," they would definitely step on the three rune arrays that were faintly emitting a dangerous aura.

In that case, Ice Storm did not know what would happen.

Fortunately...

Ice Storm exhaled and looked at the end of the room. To her surprise and delight, she discovered that as long as she passed through a dark empty space, there would be stone pillars that were shimmering faintly in front of her.

More than ten stone pillars that were known as "totem pillars" surrounded the altar that was used to worship the ancestral spirits and divine weapons!

"I've finally found it!"

Ice Storm was just about to move forward when Meng Chao grabbed her.

"Don't you think that the distance from here to the altar is too far?"

Meng Chao said, "Such a long distance and there's nothing at all. It really doesn't make sense!"

Back when they were exploring Ruins No. 1, the people of Earth had paid the price of blood.

It was such a painful truth that they knew that the place that seemed to be safe was the most dangerous, and the moment that seemed to be a victory was also the moment that they were most likely to fail or even die.

Meng Chao blinked quickly. Under the condensation of spirit energy, rings of light appeared around his two pupils.

He used his extraordinary vision and the keen senses of a sensitive person to carefully scan the space in front of him.

Then, he bit his fingertip and squeezed out a few drops of blood.

Aiming at the center of the space, he shot out more than ten drops of blood.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Just as the more than ten drops of blood formed a vague human figure and rapidly passed through the seemingly harmless space.

Suddenly, the blood drop seemed to have hit an invisible net. Hundreds and thousands of dazzling rays of light suddenly flashed in the space, splitting the entire space into pieces. The moment Meng Chao's blood touched the rays of light, all of it evaporated and became completely annihilated.

Ice Storm sucked in a breath of cold air.

If Meng Chao had not stopped her in time and she had directly charged through, even with the protection of the totem battle armor, there would have been dozens of transparent holes on her body. Even her flesh and blood would have been like Meng Chao's blood drops, vaporized in an instant and completely annihilated!

"Not every mechanism has to be deployed behind the bronze gate."

Meng Chao muttered, "Not all problems can be solved with indomitable courage—perhaps, this is the reason the ancestral spirits want to tell their descendants?"

"They can clearly tell their descendants the reason, but they have to use this method to let their descendants comprehend it on their own. The Turan people... Our ancestors are really... strange!" Ice Storm said with a bitter smile.

"The truth that is instilled into our brains by others, how can there be a truth that we can comprehend on our own?"

Meng Chao paused for a moment, but he really wanted to continue. "Moreover, the attitude of the Turan ancestral spirits toward their descendants isn't just 'weird,' right?

"Using the strong artificial intelligence contained in the totem armor, we have turned our descendants into war machines that are addicted to killing each other. We have basically locked down the possibility of our civilization continuing to advance. From the 'ancestral spirits' that can create a glorious civilization, we have become the 'orcs' of today's clan era!

"This isn't just weird. It's simply filled with deep malice!"

Of course, Meng Chao still forcefully swallowed the second half of his sentence because he did not know why the ancient Turan people did this.

Why did they develop things like the mandrake tree and the totem armors to make their descendants more and more... primitive, ignorant, bloodthirsty, and warlike?

Was it an unintentional mistake, or was there a deeper secret?

If there was a chance, Meng Chao really wanted to crack this secret in order to prevent the destruction of the Turan civilization and the Dragon City civilization.

As for now, it was better to deal with the third mechanism first!

After pondering for a moment, Meng Chao divided himself into ten times and shot hundreds of drops of blood into the space in front of him.

Sure enough, every time the blood spurted out, hundreds and thousands of beams of light containing destructive energy would appear in the seemingly calm space, evaporating the blood instantly.

It seemed that these beams of light were activated instantly by sensing biological information.

They could no longer be fooled by holding their breath, locking their heartbeats, and lowering their body temperature.

Nor could they rely on their courage to charge straight through.

However, the beam of light flashed ten times in a row, leaving a distinct afterimage on Meng Chao's retina.

Meng Chao overlapped all the afterimages and found that the position and angle of the beam of light were fixed every time.

Moreover, some of the gaps between the beams were larger, and some were smaller. The gaps that could accommodate a human being were always connected to each other.

It was like a...

"It's a maze!"

Meng Chao's eyes lit up. "Hundreds and thousands of destructive light beams have formed a maze. As long as you remember the location and angle of the destructive light beams, you can find the safe passage between the maze!"

After realizing this, the next step was easy.

It was not difficult for Meng Chao to crack this maze of destructive light."

On one hand, it was because his intelligence was slightly higher than that of the advanced orcs in the clan era.

Although the traps left behind by the ancestral spirit had the intention of making things difficult for the descendants, it wasn't because they wanted to kill all the descendants who entered the temple for the test.

Apart from being invisible under normal circumstances and testing one's memory, this maze of destructive light only had three or four forks, so it was not too difficult.

More importantly, this labyrinth was originally prepared for the glorious warriors of the Blood Hoof Clan.

Plus, the members of the Blood Hoof Clan, even the relatively small Minotaurs and wild boar people, were still taller than the Earthlings and the Holy Light humans. They did not even have to wonder about the hippo warriors, rhinoceros warriors, and barbarian elephant warriors.

Since even the barbarian elephant warriors could pass through the maze, the gap between the destructive light naturally could not be too small.

Without much trouble, Meng Chao and Ice Storm successfully passed through the maze and arrived at the bottom of the altar.

The two looked at each other and finally heaved a sigh of relief.

"There shouldn't be any more tests, right?"

Ice Storm sized up the altar and the totem pole before she said, "I remember that Casanova brought me here. When I took off my mask back then, I appeared here directly."

"There shouldn't be any more, right?" Meng Chao asked with uncertainty.

"If we can't even finish clearing the three layers of traps, then the ancestral spirits of the Blood Hoof Clan are too torturous!"

Before he finished speaking, they heard a weak, crisp sound coming from behind the altar.

It was hard to describe the sound. It could only be said that it was like the sound of a huge block of ice or a piece of crystal shattering, scattering pieces on the ground.

Then, they heard heavy and slow footsteps.

It was as if they were wearing steel boots. Bang, bang, bang!

It was as if they were stepping on their chests, slowly squeezing their hearts.

Other than that, there were two other heavy objects rubbing against the ground. It was a sharp sound that ravaged their eardrums.

"It can't be?"

Meng Chao widened his eyes. "There's really more?"

Well, to be precise, there were only three mechanisms in Blood Skull Temple.

At this moment, what appeared before Meng Chao and Ice Storm was a huge monster.

When the sound of the steel boots hitting the ground gradually turned from slow to rapid, the monster, which had seemingly just woken up from hibernation, also jumped from the altar to the totem pole. Then it jumped high up from the totem pole and landed heavily in front of Meng Chao as well as Ice Storm.

The dark flames on the altar outlined the ferocious outline of the monster.

Its huge body, which was at least half a body taller than Meng Chao and weighed at least half a ton, was protected by a super heavy armor that looked like a black iron castle.

However, a large amount of trembling granulation and tumors were squeezed out from the gaps of the armor.

The deeply sunken abdomen meant that all the internal organs inside had disappeared.

It was as if the person wearing this super heavy armor did not need the internal organs, which could not be directly used for killing.

The too narrow waist and the too wide shoulders formed a somewhat deformed inverted triangle.

The arms that extended from the top two horns of the inverted triangle, under the amplification of the arm armor, expanded into two giant pillars that dragged all the way to the ground.

At the end of the giant pillars were two giant war hammers that were even bigger than Meng Chao's head. They were engraved with dense cuneiform characters, and the patterns were stained with blood.

Since its arms were too thick and the war hammers were too big, the monster walked like a gorilla. It did not even need to use its legs, just the support of its arms, and it could easily cross more than ten steps.

It was obvious that even the deformed and ugly advanced orcs rarely looked so unique.

Its deeply sunken abdomen and overly thick arms completely went against the common sense of life science.

Meng Chao and Ice Storm looked at each other and frowned at the same time. They blurted out a name that represented madness and destruction.

"Origin Warrior!"

Chapter 1060: Skull Crushers

Flesh and metal, orc and machine, as well as the desire to kill and the will to destroy, formed the most terrifying monster in Picturesque Orchid Lake.

It was the Origin Warrior. He never tired, never retreated, and never gave up. Once he was unlocked from his seal, he would fight to the death or until he killed all the enemies he could detect. Perhaps even the last living cell under someone's warped armor would be burned to ashes.

Moreover, the one who appeared before Meng Chao and Ice Storm to protect Blood Skull Temple was not an ordinary Origin Warrior who had only been created in recent decades.

Three huge cuneiform characters were engraved on his chest armor that was as thick as a shield. They were flashing with an extremely unnerving red glow.

Ever since Meng Chao obtained his totem armor, he had also conducted an in-depth study of the cuneiform characters used by the ancient Turan people, especially the characters that represented numbers. He had deciphered all of them.

Therefore, he could read the number written on the Origin Warrior's chest plate.

"Two hundred and forty-nine?"

Meng Chao was puzzled. "What does this number mean?"

Next to him, Ice Storm's expression changed, as though she was facing a great enemy. Her entire body tensed up.

"This isn't a number. It's his name. It seems that this Origin Warrior was the strongest ace gladiator in the Blood Skull Arena, and he has been so in the past millennium... 249!"

Ice Storm told Meng Chao that 249 had been active about three to four hundred years ago.

In his heyday, he had achieved a miracle of winning two-hundred and forty nine matches in a row in the glorious Blood Skull Arena.

Such a shocking feat had never been broken by a second gladiator until today.

Therefore, with the Turan people's unique naming method, people had forgotten the ace gladiator's name in the past and renamed him after the miracle.

"I see."

Meng Chao said, "Thankfully, he only won two-hundred and forty-nine matches in a row. If he won one more match, wouldn't he be called 250?"

"Be careful. This guy is very tricky."

Facing her "old senior" from the Blood Skull Arena, Ice Storm did not dare to be careless at all. "249 is not just powerful. He is also brutal by nature and extremely cruel," she told Meng Chao solemnly.

"One should know that battles between gladiators are usually not life-and-death battles. Once the victor is decided, there is also a bit of showmanship.

"249, on the other hand, enjoys the pleasure of slowly killing his opponent before everyone's eyes.

"Out of the two hundred and forty-nine victories he obtained, a hundred and fourteen of them were a result of him trampling his opponent to death in the arena.

"Seventy to eighty of his opponents were lucky enough to escape, but he would still tear off at least one of their limbs. Their souls were destroyed, and they were never allowed to enter the arena again.

"Very few people were able to escape 249's hammer and leave the arena unscathed!

"Just like that, after he won 249 victories, no one was willing to fight him anymore.

"Even the most audacious and fearless warrior of Turan did not want to be pinned to the ground by 249 in front of everyone. Arm after arm, leg after leg, they were torn off and turned into a bloody meatball in the end.

"249 became extremely depressed when he could not find an opponent. He simply shifted his target to the depths of Blood Skull Temple.

"Deep in Blood Skull Temple, a pair of extremely ancient and powerful war hammers with at least 4,000 to 5,000 years of history were being worshipped. They are known as the Skull Crushers.

"As for the original owner of the Skull Crushers, that's another story.

"You only need to know that the Skull Crushers are legendary weapons to the entire Blood Hoof Clan. For thousands of years, countless warriors have attempted to break into Blood Skull Temple and obtain the weapon's approval. They would wave it once and unleash a blood tide.

"Unfortunately, these people either collapsed in between the layers of Blood Skull Temple's barriers, or they were controlled and even devoured by the fierce ancient souls that lurked in the ancient weapons the moment they touched the Skull Crushers.

"Their souls, courage, and flesh were all turned into food to nourish the Skull Crushers.

"249 was slightly luckier than those unlucky fellows in the past.

"He successfully passed Blood Skull Temple's test and arrived before the Skull Crushers. Then, he tried to raise the pair of war hammers that contained numerous fierce souls and immeasurable destructive energy.

"Unfortunately, he had overestimated his own will and underestimated the terror of the Skull Crushers.

"Fortunately, his body was strong enough to be considered the most powerful among the countless fellows who had tried to control the Skull Crushers over thousands of years.

"As a result, he obtained a portion of the Skull Crushers' acknowledgment. Although his soul was torn into pieces by the destructive energy contained within the Skull Crusher, his flesh and blood weren't completely devoured.

"Instead, the Skull Crushers fused with his totem armor and transformed him into an Origin Warrior, and he continued his journey of slaughter in an even more violent manner.

"After that, the Blood Hoof Clan apparently spent the lives of several dozen clan warriors to finally control and seal this most dangerous Origin Warrior.

"I didn't expect him to be sealed under Blood Skull Temple, acting as its guardian!"

"Is that so?"

After listening to Ice Storm's introduction, Meng Chao's eyes sparkled, and his gaze was incomparably greedy as he stared at the ends of the other party's arms, which were as thick as giant pillars. The pair of battle hammers in his hands were engraved with complex runes. Plus, a red glow that looked like lava and also blood plasma was flowing all over them.

"They are legendary weapons from at least four to five thousand years ago!"

Meng Chao muttered to himself, "In other words, as long as we defeat 249, we'll be able to obtain the Skull Crushers, and our combat strength will soar?"

"What?"

Ice Storm was dumbstruck. "Did you hear what I just said? The point isn't how much our combat strength will increase after we obtain the Skull Crusher, okay? The point is that this guy is simply impossible to—"

The word "beat" had yet to come out of her mouth.

However, the most terrifying ace gladiator in the Blood Skull Arena in the past five hundred years had already launched an attack on the two intruders.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

His two arms that were like giant pillars stirred up the air, unleashing an imposing aura that was reminiscent of a raging wave.

The two war hammers known as the Skull Crushers were about to land on their heads.

Even though the two of them were quick-witted and fast enough to retreat in midair, the war hammers landed heavily on the ground, creating an ear-splitting shockwave.

It still felt like an invisible giant wave had slammed into their chests with great force, creating ripples on their totem armors. Their sternum screamed, and their lungs groaned.

"Look, do you see it? This is the strength that 249 and the Skull Crushers possess!" Ice Storm knelt on one knee and clutched her chest as she panted.

"It's indeed terrifying!"

Meng Chao, who had half a mouthful of blood in his mouth, vaguely said, "Why don't we surrender?"

Ice Storm was stunned. "What did you say?"

"Don't Origin Warriors accept surrender?"

Meng Chao swallowed his blood and spoke through gritted teeth. "That way, even if he is ten times stronger, we still have a chance to fight to the end and kill him!"

Before he finished his sentence, Meng Chao had already turned into a bolt of lightning.

His opponent was almost twice his height, and the Origin Warrior's arm span was three to four times that of his. In addition, the ancient war hammers, Skull Crushers, had the ability to create hurricanes and shock waves, so they were effective in controlling the battlefield.

Long-range combat was disadvantageous to Meng Chao, so he had to find a way to close the distance and cut into the warrior's inner circle.

With that in mind, Meng Chao deliberately slowed down his pace to reveal a flaw.

Sure enough, the Origin Warrior was fooled. Without any hesitation, he smashed his hammer at him.

Unexpectedly, Meng Chao was already prepared. He suddenly exerted some strength with his legs, leaving half a shadow behind as he dodged the hammer's attack. Then, he "borrowed" the recoil of the shock wave and jumped high into the air before landing on the Origin Warrior's arm.

He stomped heavily on the Origin Warrior's left wrist.

As he stomped the war hammer to the ground, he simultaneously reached for the Origin Warrior's neck.

Behind his elbows, two huge sickles were ready to be used.

The Origin Warrior let out a beastly roar. His right arm went around the back of his head, and he swung at Meng Chao from a very awkward angle.

Based on Meng Chao's precise calculation, the warrior's thick and strong arms would move very slowly. There would definitely be many blind spots in his attack range.

As long as Meng Chao cut into his personal space, he would definitely find a blind spot and continue to attack.

In the end, when he stood on the Origin Warrior's left shoulder, it was indeed difficult for the guy's right arm to circle around and attack him.

However, the war hammer at the end of his right arm flew out with a whoosh.

It turned out that behind the pair of Skull Crushers, there were actually chains that were as thick as arms connected to the arm armor. It was a pair of meteor hammers that could move freely and dance like the wind. There were no blind spots at all.

"Arghh!" Meng Chao let out a weird cry. His entire body fell backward without any warning, and he narrowly avoided the meteor hammer's impact.

The battle hammer unwittingly brushed against his breastplate. It immediately left behind a crater and opened up a ravine in the ground.

He felt that his chest had been slashed by a giant battle saber that weighed more than a hundred kilograms. The destructive force even penetrated his entire chest and traveled all the way to his spine.

However, Meng Chao did not have time to moan.

He did not even have time to spit out the blood.

That was because he was lying on the ground, at the Origin Warrior's feet.

Boom!

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The Origin Warrior's vision was blocked. If he lowered his head to take a look, he would inevitably give Meng Chao a chance to take advantage of him.

Although most of his mind had been wiped out, the ace gladiator who had won two hundred and fortynine consecutive matches in the Blood Skull Arena had been triggered to the maximum.

He did not even look at what was below him and just stomped on whatever it was.

His feet hit the ground, making a loud noise that sounded like a heavy cannon. It was not inferior to the Tyrant Mammoth's War Trample on Monster Mountain Range.

Meng Chao was like a loach, rolling around under the Origin Warrior's feet.

The Origin Warrior almost stomped on Meng Chao a few times as he created a huge, transparent hole that spanned from Meng Chao's chest to his back.

Meng Chao twisted his body into a ball of dough and dodged the Origin Warrior in an awkward or comical manner.

It was not until Ice Storm shot out three icicles at the Origin Warrior and attracted the latter's attention that Meng Chao was able to roll and crawl away from the warrior's range.