

Righteous Ps 301

The Righteous Player(s) Chapter 301

After Lin Yiyi came online early in the morning, she routinely went to Annan's house to stream her perspective.

As Annan's bodyguard, she stayed at Annan's house every day out of her duty;

As Annan's only guard, she didn't guard the door but stayed by Annan's side and stayed on alert to protect him. Hence, it was pretty understandable for her to be in his room.

For the same reason, she kept a watchful eye on Annan. Sometimes, she would approach Annan and chat for a while, which wasn't odd in the eyes of others.

Aside from the silent, deadly stare Kafni often watched from afar, Annan didn't resist Yiyi's increasingly intimate gestures. He even gradually handed over some important tasks to her.

For example, last night, Annan went to the previous warehouse to perform a ritual.

Lin Yiyi had stayed on guard at the door to eliminate potential external interference to the ritual. However, she was also the person bringing the materials required for the ritual to Annan.

Although those little things weren't too heavy, Annan wasn't too weak to move them.

However, she didn't feel comfortable watching a cute shota [1] with the height only at her chest level carrying those items while she stayed watching at the side. She didn't like it when she was just strolling at the back while her boss was working.

So even if Annan didn't ask her for help, Lin Yiyi took the initiative to help Annan move all the things he needed in one go — just like how she did many odd jobs in the viscount house.

Not only did she clean Annan's room, but also Kafni's room beside his.

—Yes, Lin Yiyi wasn't just harassing Annan. She was also harassing Kafni.

She wasn't a pure shotacon [1].

She was also a fangirl attracted by handsome and pretty faces.

She wasn't only captivated by Annan; she felt the doll-like, introverted Kafni fit her taste. Once Kafni grows older, I can dress her up like a hell girl [2]...

It was just that Lin Yiyi was currently concentrating on producing Annan's variety show via live streams. Her original purpose was to mock Jiu Er, but the more she got to know Annan, the more she felt that Annan always had a reassuring atmosphere around him. So, the purpose of her live broadcast had become promoting Annan's fame.

She also took a casual photo of Kafni when that introverted cutie just happened to walk into the camera.

The viscount house had already hired new maids to replenish the lack of manpower, but this did not interfere Lin Yiyi from having her fun. It felt like she was like raising one lovely younger brother and one lovely younger sister. Lin Yiyi would come over when she was free as she worked on her weekly missions and protected the two of them.

No matter it was helping to clean up the room, grabbing the two younger siblings to eat on time, or simple errands, Lin Yiyi enjoyed this “leisure life in another world”.

Of course, her real brother wouldn't get to enjoy this kind of treatment.

That's your blood-related little brother.jpg

Suuankou was utterly speechless by it.

But, Lin Yiyi didn't take care of Kafni and Annan with the thought that “they might die without me”.

Her main goal was to take advantage of them.

Annan and Kafni were both mature and sensible characters. Although they were all in the rebellious period around the age of fourteen, they weren't spoiled children at all. Moreover, they took care of themselves quite well without relying on Lin Yiyi.

Most importantly, they were all good-looking.

Annan was self-disciplined with a routine. His daily life encompassed practicing swordsmanship, physical training, reading books, drinking tea, and catching up with the latest news; it had the vibe of a retired person who lived a leisurely life. Moreover, he would attend his meal and sleep on time. All in all, he lived a healthy life like Kira Yoshikage [3] with a well-balanced diet and exercise before going to bed.

Lin Yiyi also found out that Annan was knowledgeable; he could quickly pick up new things.

So much so that Annan could interact with the players in the information age easily. Except for some specific nouns that he couldn't understand in which she needed to explain, he could follow through the conversations smoothly.

At present, under the “teaching” of Lin Yiyi, Annan could already understand the common words used by many players.

— Of course, this was actually Annan's acting.

The main goal was to reduce communication barriers so that players wouldn't feel that “Annan couldn't understand anyway” and hide something from him. Then, the players would chat with him more, foster a closer relationship, getting rid of estrangement and gaps.

I'm not your grandfather. Is there anything you can't explain to me?

Come and read on our website wuxia worldsite. Thanks

Lin Yiyi, a player who liked to come over to chat with Annan, was a good precedent. After forming the concept of “Annan accepted the culture of the earth quickly” in other players' minds, he wouldn't be easily exposed if he were to say something out accidentally.

Players would only think that “It's all Sister Hyphen's fault, being a bad influence to Annan”.

However, the situation wasn't the same for Kafni.

Her whereabouts could be said to be erratic. She often had her canvas around and went to different places to sketch. Annan could easily find her, but it was challenging when Lin Yiyi was getting Kafni to bed or the dining table.

At first, she thought Kafni was kidnapped, or she left without a word.

It was only later she learned that Kafni had gone to the slums of Rusty Water Street.

Lin Yiyi didn't even know how she got there. She was like a cat, squatting quietly on the roof, looking at the noisy crowd below, and the people below didn't even notice that there was another person above them.

Probably because Lin Yiyi would also take care of her, Kafni just threw her a deadly stare from time to time.

Otherwise, Kafni could have made a move because Yiyi was close to Annan.

Kafni gave off the vibe of a cat and a doll to Lin Yiyi. It was just a pity that she hadn't yet found the skills to lure Kafni, and she was still in a stage where she could barely live with Kafni. There could be any danger descending upon her at any time.

But Annan was a little unusual today.

When Lin Yiyi went there early in the morning, Annan, who was supposed to practice swordsmanship in the yard, sat quietly at the table and stared at the sky.

Lin Yiyi was worried about disturbing Annan and was a little curious.

She stood far away and asked in a low voice, “Your Highness, what are you doing?”

“I'm looking at Delicious Wind Goose's side.” Annan looked serious, “I feel that he seems to be in some danger. So I plan to take a look at the situation on his side through the contract.”

“Can you see our location directly, Your Highness?” Lin Yiyi was a little surprised.

Before that, she didn't know that Annan had this ability.

“I can, but I rarely do it because it is a hassle.” Annan turned around and said seriously, “Also, I think that all of you deserve to have your own life and privacy. I don't want to treat you all as my subordinates, but my friends instead.

“In yesterday's ritual, I saw that Delicious Wind Goose may be in danger. He is about to drag into a conspiracy. Even if you all can come back to life again, I don't want you to be framed and be wanted for no reason.

“So I want to help him. As an outsider, I may be able to see who will be framing him and how to get out of the problem...”

Annan's icy blue pupils were bright and confident. The morning light came through the window and shone on Annan's face, making his face shrouded in sacredness.

His clear and sweet voice was under the players' watch through Lin Yiyi's live stream channel, "You have helped me a lot, and I also want to... try to help you."

"—You've helped us a lot..."

"—It's so heart-warming. Annan is so cute!"

"—Perverted Sister Hyphen, stay away from Annan! Don't rub him with your two lumps of fat! Hey, stop it!"

"—Someone has died a lot recently. Do you have any clues?"

"—How do I know..."

After a short delay, a swarm of bullet texts surged on the screen for the live stream.

Of course, that was also part of Annan's acting.

Not only did he design the lines in advance, but he even chose the location specifically to ensure the light shone upon him when Lin Yiyi entered the door, he finished saying these words and turned around...

Half of the reason was to increase his favorability among the players. Another half of the reason was to make the players forget about the settings where Annan could see the situation on the player's side regardless of distance and be accepted by the players.

I'm confident. I know the players so well, and I can gain their favorability easily.

Thinking of this, Annan showed a confident smile and raised his head proudly.

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Chapter 302: Delicious Wind Goose

When Delicious Wind Goose carried out the plan according to the agreement, he did not bring any teammates in the end.

Because he had vaguely noticed there was a looming danger last night.

Although Caravan Master Tate seemed sincere, told him many details, and signed a Silver Sire-certified contract with him...

Just in case, Delicious Wind Goose chose to temporarily cut off contact with Van Helsing and Yokai Teacher and only communicated at a distance through the forum. Just like what he said to Tate, he wanted to show that he wasn't close to these two priests.

The best way was to give up the mission to escort the two priests into the royal city in public.

That was to avoid the case when his username turned red and his teammates were forced into the battle... [TN: A system in MMORPG when the player's name turns red, the NPC will be hostile to the players.]

Delicious Wind Goose's cautious approach came into play.

After all, this was a “main mission” that was triggered in advance and hadn't yet unfolded. Once exposed or failed, the consequences might be serious. Not only would it affect his three teammates, but Annan and the interests of other players would also be affected.

It was only then that Delicious Wind Goose gradually realized that Annan didn't assign the two priests to his team because Jiu Er's fighting style was too wild, requiring two healing professions to recover her lost health.

Instead, it was to make the team flexible in response to possible challenges.

The priests, who could use the divine art, could freely enter and exit most public places. Moreover, the priests could also use his reputation as a guarantee and grand entry to one teammate with the excuse of a friend.

No matter anyone of them left the team, it wouldn't affect the rest of the team. They could even disband their squad into two teams at any time. If the new team setting was separate into the Transcendeds team and the Priests team, the two Transcended could be dispatched in carrying out illegal affairs. They wouldn't need to be worried about getting caught and getting the church's attention. On the other hand, if each of the two teams had a Transcended and a priest, their entry to places wouldn't be limited.

Their mission wasn't to kill someone or steal something but to investigate.

In other words, they didn't need to prioritize the combat effectiveness of the team, but their accessibility to areas and the efficiency of investigation. Or rather, their credibility.

Although they hadn't entered the capital yet, their hidden mission to “seek important information in the capital” was undoubtedly in progress.

It was just that Delicious Wind Goose seemed to have participated in the mission from the villain's point of view.

So the first thing Delicious Wind Goose had to do was to cut off any contact with the rest of the three teammates.

He did take precautions for his action.

He didn't want to implicate his teammates.

While a priest had a high degree of credibility, his actions were also restricted.

Before leaving Roseburg, Bread Daryl had asked the two priests not to do anything illegal. Otherwise, the local church would come to deal with them as soon as possible. Once the church interfered, there was no room to resolve it no matter briberies or hiring lawyers.

After all, the Silver Sire was watching...

In other words, although the two priests had high attack power and life points, they both had the attribute of “incapable of attacking”.

Only Delicious Wind Goose and Jiu Er could coerce, lure, steal, rob, deceive and kill. Once both of them were caught, the investigation mission would basically fail.

Under the condition of not breaking any laws and regulations, and not attracting the attention and hostility of others, it was a tough but plausible job to secretly investigate and dig the prince's criminal evidence from the prince's turf.

Luckily, Delicious Wind Goose was quite a witty player.

He noticed this before he entered the city.

So Delicious Wind Goose immediately communicated with Jiu Er on the forum.

Delicious Wind Goose asked her to take the deposit that he got, as well as all their previous deposits, to hire another convoy and escort “the two priests” into the city. The core purpose was to allow Jiu Er to enter the royal city with a clean and innocent identity. That would be the background of “escorting two princes from Roseburg into the royal city”.

After discussing the details on the forum, Delicious Wind Goose was at their residence and had a quarrel with Jiu Er in public.

Roughly speaking, Delicious Wind Goose's point of view was that “you can pick up other jobs on the way”, while Jiu Er insisted that their priority was to escort the priests over to the destination first. Since Delicious Wind Goose was vague in his words, while Jiu Er's speech was clear and upright, her remarks were supported by many passers-by.

In the end, after being punched by Jiu Er, Delicious Wind Goose packed up and left the hotel where he was temporarily staying.

In this quarrel, the two of them successfully created the image of a firm, fair, honest, and trustworthy female [Berserker].

In this way, when Jiu Er looked for help, it would be much more convenient.

Delicious Wind Goose also successfully lurked in the dark.

After parting ways with Jiu Er, Goose soon came to Caravan Master Tate's side.

It was about 11 p.m.

Caravan Master Tate, who was also a bald and macho man like Delicious Wind Goose, had not slept yet.

He didn't ask why Delicious Wind Goose came over suddenly; he just told Goose in a gentle manner that he could stay by his side directly.

Then, he immediately assigned a room to Delicious Wind Goose. There was also hot water, adequate lighting, a late-night snack, and a hearty breakfast the next morning.

Such an attitude made Delicious Wind Goose feel a chill in his heart.

The plan he conveyed on the forum was indeed correct.

Sure enough, the squad was already being watched.

Even if they hadn't entered the capital, there must be eyes on them already at the Tasque County.

This baldy...

He wouldn't have "coincidentally" recruited Goose because he couldn't find anyone else.

Since he already had his eyes in Tasque County, how would they struggle to find a delivery person?

Old Goose had a hunch that he would be put as the scapegoat with some other conspiracy hiding in the dark.

But Delicious Wind Goose didn't leave and didn't run away.

He only had another series of questions.

Were they targeted from the very beginning? Or did they only get targeted after he had got into contact with Caravan Master Tate?

In the end, was the situation of him accepting Carvan Master Tate's mission a coincidence or a conspiracy?

What were his special qualities that lure Tate?

What the hell was this [Demon's Blood]?

Delicious Wind Goose showcased his expertise in controlling his facial expression, hiding his suspicion and vigilance well enough. He just thanked the maid who brought the supper and went offline without touching the food.

For the next morning, Delicious Wind Goose went online safely.

He quietly checked his room, and there was no obvious sign of being infiltrated. After breakfast, the caravan spent a lot of time packing up.

By 10 a.m., the winter cold had basically dissipated. Delicious Wind Goose, along with Tate's caravan, officially set off to the capital.

The caravan had a large man count, and they were transporting alcohol. Hence, they traveled at a slow pace.

There were stops along their journey, and Goose predicted their arrival at the capital in three or four days.

Jiu Er's group traveled much faster. After hiring a convoy, they hurried at full speed, and they would be able to enter the city in about a day and a half.

After getting in the carriage, Delicious Wind Goose browsed the forum first.

He then discovered that there were actually many people tagging him.

Yiyi: “@Delicious Wind Goose, check out my recording! The one from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. this morning!”

Wandering Child: “@Delicious Wind Goose @Delicious Wind Goose @Delicious Wind Goose, is Old Goose okay?”

Jiu Er: “@Delicious Wind Goose, have you departed? Remember to watch Sister Hyphen's recording first when you have time.”

“...What's going on?” Delicious Wind Goose was a little surprised.

He opened Lin Yiyi's personal homepage. At the top of the list was today's live stream video, and her video was voted at the top for the safe for convenience.

The live stream video started at 8:30 a.m. and the keywords were Delicious Wind Goose, Conspiracy, Clairvoyance, and Cute Annan.

What the hell?!

Delicious Wind Goose was at a loss.

He quickly opened up the video and studied it carefully.

Soon after, his pupils shrank slightly.

“...I see.” He twitched his lips silently but made no sound.

It's indeed a conspiracy...

It turns out that the effect of [Demon's Blood] is like this...

A cursed town...

And, Prince Philip...

Delicious Wind Goose squinted his eyes slightly. His thoughts were racing, and the worries and fears in his heart had dissipated.

—What an important and timely piece of information.

Delicious Wind Goose took a deep breath and didn't forget to return his gratitude to those who had tagged him on the forum.

Since I have seen the cards up your sleeves, I have no reason to be afraid of you.

After all, I know your trump card which enables me to plot against you at your weak points, understand your mind, and speculate on your tactics...

On the other hand, you know nothing about me.

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Watching Delicious Wind Goose talking to himself on the forum, Wandering Child couldn't help but laugh out loud.

I'm sure he was panicking just now.

He and Delicious Wind Goose have known each other for so many years. Sure enough, the Child had a rough understanding of the baldy's character.

If Delicious Wind Goose weren't struck with fear, he would have published a post and boasted eloquently on what he saw, heard, and thought about before he made the decision. Then, he would brag about it and tag those who had tagged him first.

Seeing that Old Goose didn't even make a post about it and disappeared right after thanking the other players one by one, the Child was quite confident that Old Goose panicked.

But after gloating over the misfortune, the Child couldn't help but get a little worried, "...I wonder how's their situation."

"Don't worry about it." Dove sat beside the Child, petted her lynx, and said casually, "I don't think it's a big problem.

"If Neckless (Goose's nickname) manages to respond immediately, he should be able to cut off any loose ends in time. Jiu Er and their identities are still clean, and they can still enter the royal city.

"With Annan watching from a distance, he should have a buffer time if something does happen. I've known Neckless for a long time, but he doesn't like to use his brain very much. Once he starts thinking, his brain is still quite useful."

"Yeah, smart heads don't grow hair..." The Child nodded in agreement.

The Child had already reached the ruin's entrance, so there was no need to hurry.

He waited for the other two of his team to go online, so they could pack up and prepare to explore the ruins.

Now that the two of them had nothing to do, they caught another deer, some bugs, and edible mushrooms. They roasted and ate them at the ruin entrance to pass the time.

At this time, the Child was glad that he took tea leaves with him when he left.

His original idea was to chew tea leaves to refresh himself when he was sleepy. This tea was a special energizing black tea, the same type that Salvatore drank every morning, so Annan still had some in stock.

Tea leaves in this world were relatively cheap to the extent that ordinary people could afford them.

The ships and navigational technology in the Noah Kingdom had only just developed to the level at the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

However, due to the upright deity — the Deity of Decomposition and Nurture, Motherly Moth, crops such as sugar, tea, cotton, and even cocoa were favored by Her believer hundreds or even thousands of years ago. They were discovered and cultivated, with their nurturing process optimized.

Some endangered plant species were acquired from the elves, such as elves' tea leaves, which the Motherly Moth had successfully passed them down for many generations. The Papal Kingdom was the base of the Motherly Moth believers. Not only did they export nutrient solutions similar to chemical fertilizers, but they even pioneered the soilless cultivation technology.

It was fair to say the technological development of this world was quite unbalanced.

This was also why countries didn't have as much land as the Noah Kingdom was still striving and didn't starve to death because of famine.

The cause of a large number of casualties was primarily due to natural disasters such as undead, severe colds, floods, and sandstorms.

Of course, this aspect was one of the Noah Kingdom's advantages.

This was all thanks to the sharp vision of Silver Sire in choosing their place. Although their territory wasn't large, it happened to have no natural disasters, so the land quality was superb.

The Child opened the lid and put the tea leaves into the boiling water. Then, he fastened the lid.

It was an item that looked like a rice cooker, but it was not a teapot but a standard cooking pot. The pot was double-layered with the fuels of the Green Fire stored underneath. Although it wasn't as powerful compared to cooking on a gas stove, its temperature could at least boil the water. Also, it prevented diseases potentially caused by drinking raw water, and it could also be used to cook porridge.

Once the fuel was refilled, it could continue to heat for 3 hours. One set of fuel weighed about 2 kilograms. They each carried a spare set of fuel. Since they used it sparingly, they hadn't yet used up the first fuel even when they reached the ruin's entrance.

They definitely wouldn't be able to use up these five fuels at this rate when they return.

Hehe, we're safe. I can use as much as I want.

Come and read on our website [wuxia worldsite](#). Thanks

While waiting for the tea to be made, the Child asked Dove curiously, "By the way, when did you and Old Goose get acquainted? I remember hearing him mention about you a few years ago."

"Ah, it has been a long time." Dove looked up at the sky and thought for a while playing with the cat, "It's almost 15 years.

"He was in the first year of high school at that time, and his mother introduced him to me to learn compound bows. But, he stopped after two months of lessons... He had known me since then."

When Dove said this, she raised the corner of his mouth and said, "At that time, I remember that he wanted to pursue me. So I just told him that you are too fat for me, and then he went to the gym..."

"Do you know that the nickname "Neckless" came from me?"

"...I really don't know about that."

The Wandering Child shook his head again and again. He suddenly became interested in the old stories.

It's just a little bit confusing to him...

He looked at Dove's brown ponytail, short stature, and immature face and then fell into contemplation.

She seems to be a teenager at most, right?

At most, she is in her early twenties. If she dresses up much younger, the others may even believe that she is just a junior high school student.

How could she be able to teach Delicious Wind Goose archery 15 years ago? How did she get to know his mother?

How old is this girl now?

But Wandering Child was smart enough not to ask that question.

He felt that he would be attacked if he were to ask that question.

He concentrated on the gossip to see if he could get something to blackmail Delicious Wind Goose and pressured the Poor Goose to treat him for a crab feast, "—Please tell me more, boss."

The Child poured the boiled tea into a cup and respectfully handed it to Dove.

Dove took over the tea with a smile, not in a hurry to drink it. She reminisced with some nostalgia, "At that time, Neckless still had hair, but he wasn't as smart as he is now. At that time, he had a bad temper and was rash. It depended on his weight and height for any fights, trying to cool while sneering as if he could punch harder. If he hadn't been fat enough at that time, he would have been beaten into a fool long ago."

"Did he have a bad temper at that time?" The Child was a little surprised.

When he met Delicious Wind Goose, the bald muscle card game streamer already gave off a reliable vibe like an elder brother.

"It's pretty serious. At that time, Xiang Tiange always felt that he was pretty good. He was the best player in their class, and he could also play basketball well. Also, he was 185 centimeters tall when he was still a freshman. So I didn't expect that he didn't grow bigger but appeared to be shrunk down when he lost his hair.

"His family is rich. Before he learned archery, he also learned fencing and horseback riding, but they are all at an average level. But he likes to treat his classmates to dinner, so he still has many friends around him. Although he was a bit foolish, he has a good memory, thus a good academic at the junior high school and high school level. I remember that he even got 5th in the class."

Dove took a sip of tea and said in a low voice, "As for when did he change, it didn't happen after I rejected him. It should be when he was in the college entrance examination.

"At that time, he only learned half of everything. He would just drop it when he felt that he had learned it. When he was in the first year and the second year of high school, he was always among the best in his class. But when it came to the third year, he couldn't perform. So he went to learn guitar, then rock, and then basically anything. But no matter what it was, he still knew how to do it but was not proficient in it.

“His performance in the mock test was already unsatisfactory. But until the end, he felt that he should be fine after an emergency revision. Still, he couldn't pass.”

Dove made her signature calm voice, “It was around that time that he became mature. He stopped being boastful, became cautious and reliable, and his temper improved.

“He shaved his dyed hair and threw away all the casual hobbies. He quit smoking and drinking and went back to study for a year. Then, he was admitted to a prestige university. Then, he picked up his hobby in armored combat sport there. Then, I went to Australia after he repeated his studies for half a year. I don't know what happened next.”

She looked at Wandering Child and said seriously, “Xiang Tiange is a good boy. It's not because he's smart, but because he admits his mistakes and corrects them.

“So don't worry. No matter how dangerous the situation he encountered, he could handle it... I watched him grow up, after all.”

Dove held the teacup in both hands, “I believe him.”

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The Child didn't know how to respond to Dove's words.

How should I put it...

It was like a tinge of lemon sour, yet there was vaguely also a false illusion of sweetness.

“...Tsk.” The Child couldn't help but snort, “You...”

He noticed Dove's gaze change suddenly before he could finish speaking.

When she furrowed her brows and raised her head, her gaze became wild and sharp — At that moment, the Child felt a sudden wave of chill in his heart. It was as if he was walking in a dark alley and suddenly noticed an aggressive person looking towards him with a sharp blade in hand.

Before the Child could react, Dove smashed the teacup onto the ground. Then, she stood up in a breeze, grabbed the Child's hand, and pulled up from sitting.

“—Careful!” A high-pitched warning sound pierced out of Dove's throat.

The Child's brain was ringing from the vibration of that sharp sound. He instantly regained his clarity with a shiver.

...Is there an enemy?

“Oh, you have a pretty quick reaction time.” Just then, a male's voice came from not far away.

The voice didn't exactly sound indifferent, yet there weren't any fluctuations in it. It just sounded lazy. His voice was filled with lethargy, like a burnt-out office worker who had woken up early and had just gotten off a cramped subway.

Yet at this time, a sense of vigilance rose suddenly in Wandering Child's heart.

He looked towards the source of the voice.

Unknowingly, a man with messy hair who was wearing a long black robe had shown up.

He was wearing a long cloak covering all the way to his knees that had a thick cape. Yet his clothes were full of wrinkles that made them seem shabby and cheap.

It was like the clothes you rented for graduation pictures when you graduated from college. To make things even more out of sorts, the man had a bulging cotton shirt and woolen trousers under his robe.

To put it simply, it was distasteful.

"I say...you do know, right? This is already a restricted area." The man yawned and said lazily, "Leave immediately, or I will take action."

Wandering Child had already come to his senses when he heard the first sentence.

This should be the wizard from Black Tower whom Longjing Tea had mentioned.

It turns out we didn't manage to avoid them entirely.

Is this a suppression of the Perception attribute?

Also, are all wizards from Black Tower always so tired?

"Tsk..." Wandering Child gritted his teeth and was just about to say something.

"Hmm, wait..." The wizard seemed to have smelled something and opened his squinted eyes slightly.

The wizard discovered Citalopram, who was still not online and was lying in her sleeping bag. He muttered softly, "It's the smell of the undead... That's strange; why would an undead be sleeping?"

"—Hey, you two. This undead, is she with you?" The wizard asked loudly.

Yet he only paused for a while and waved his hand impatiently without waiting for the Child and Dove to respond.

"Forget it. This looks... troublesome.

"It's the rules, so don't blame me."

He said calmly, "It's not good for the undead to be discovered near the elvish ruin.

"Please first remember my name... Jude Burr. Did you hear? Let me repeat, Jude Burr."

It was an emotionless voice that sounded like he was merely getting a mission done.

The moment Jude said these words, the silver ring on the middle finger of his right hand shone slightly.

The gray shine seemed to have crawled out of his ring like a living thing, branding on the back of his right hand slowly. It left marks that seemed like fish scales, yet also like floating clouds spreading upwards gradually.

Seeing this scene, the Child immediately became vigilant.

He had experience in fighting a Silver Rank Transcended.

The Silver Rank Transcendeds had to first release the curse from its vessel to be branded on their bodies before they could harness a more powerful Transcended power. Even if the curse could not strengthen their bodies during combat, it still had to be released before it could be used.

The Child immediately patted Dove on the shoulder as he thought of this. Then, he yelled, "Hide!"

"But Suuankou and the others—"

Come and read on our website [wuxia worldsite](#). Thanks

"We can't afford to care so much now!"

Wandering Child yelled immediately, "Run, and I'll cut him off!"

We could only resurrect them both when they're online now!

Dove responded quickly.

The serval snuggling at her feet received her instructions intuitively and quickly hopped away, disappearing into the jungle; Dove also ran towards the other direction without looking back, disappearing in the blink of an eye.

Wandering Child then pulled out his rapier without hesitating.

When Wizard Jude saw this scene, he was surprised, "Elf Rapier..."

He indeed didn't leave to chase after Dove but instead stood firmly at his ground. This gave the Child some peace of mind.

It's a win if more of us can run away, and it's better to have three people drop levels instead of four.

Jude looked at Wandering Child and asked with curiosity, "Did you volunteer to stay?"

"Aren't you afraid of death? Is she your wife or your sister?"

"No, just a friend." Wandering Child answered without hesitation.

Facing a Silver Rank Wizard who had a killing intent towards him one-on-one, which he didn't know what school this wizard belonged to, was like bumping into a wild Boss Monster that overpowered him in the wild.

He knew perfectly well that he could not defeat his opponent.

But, since I can't run away... Wandering Child squinted his eyes.

The bronze ring on his left middle finger seemed to have also sensed his intentions and ignited a dazzling brilliance.

I probably won't be able to fend off against you elsewhere. And, I was also just a cameo in the last battle against a high-levelled opponent.

But here...

Wandering Child was filled with determination.

The brilliance of his ring grew brighter as he gathered his attention.

The dark green curse marks flowed out quickly from his ring like vines, reaching out to his fingers, hand, and wrist like a living thing; they climbed to his forearm.

“—This is my home ground!”

[Forest Child: When entering the environment (Forest), your Strength, Agility, and Constitution will temporarily acquire the addition of 4 attribute points bonuses (Value is determined by 50% of the lowest attribute among the three), and the blessing “Environment Adaptation (Forest)” will be in play.]

With the aid of the Forest Child curse, his strength and agility had reached a terrifying 15 points. The Child was the best among all players in terms of attributes alone.

Not to mention, his three skills could only fully function in the forest.

This was where he was at his strongest. Even the frenzied Jiu Er was unlikely to defeat him in a forest environment.

So, I don't necessarily... stand no chance to fight!

He immediately activated the live stream, intending to record the battle.

Even if I die, I will pass on this precious information of this novel adventure.

Thinking of this, Wandering Child no longer hesitated.

He took a step forward.

A tender green stained his rapier.

He slashed it vertically from top to bottom with a momentum similar to smashing a target with a heavy hammer.

At the next moment, countless thick and dense vines seemed to have gained life if not received a command, growing wildly from the Child's feet to Jude. They trapped Jude's ankles in the blink of an eye.

“...Hmm?”

Seeing this scene, Jude's gaze changed suddenly, “This is... [Vine Strike]? Are you a [Forest Walker]?”

An additional gleam of greed flashed suddenly in his gaze at the Child.

It was similar to the gaze when Jude looked at Citalopram.

The Child was vaguely familiar with this gaze.

...Indeed.

This was the gaze the Child also had when he saw the GeForce RTX 2080 TI...

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"I've changed my mind," Jude murmured. "I'm going to capture you..."

The vines that were wrapped around him tore away in an instant as if being pulled by a brutal force.

It was like an invisible mind power was clamping these vines.

These flexible yet tough vines struggled desperately but to no avail. Wandering Child immediately noticed that the weak connection between himself and these vines had been cut off by something within an instant.

In the next moment, their shape had also changed.

There was no change in color and texture, but the tips of these vines were bundled into perfectly straight dark green vine spears by an invisible power.

Jude didn't even raise his hand.

He only looked at Wandering Child, and those long spears suspended beside him all shot towards the Child!

An alarming sense of danger instantly rung in the Child's heart.

He immediately retreated to the side without hesitation.

Immediately after, he pointed the slender rapier towards the ground and lifted it upwards.

Amidst the roaring sounds of the earth, an earth wall about five fingers wide rose from the ground, sending dust flying in the air.

—Boom boom boom boom boom boom boom!

It was an unbelievably loud noise.

The earth wall was instantly filled with cracks from being bombarded by the sturdy spears transformed from the vines. In the blink of an eye, it collapsed and shattered. On the other hand, the vines that came head to head with the earth wall became a mud puddle.

However, none of this mattered because Jude had reclaimed the roots of those vines. So they continued to harden, temper, and become new spearheads.

Wandering Child felt a chill in his heart.

...Is this the standard of a Silver Rank Wizard?

What school is he from exactly?

Alteration? Or is it... Shaping?

These rattan spears knocked down the standard earth wall, which the Wandering Child summoned with ease. An earth wall of this thickness would only break open a small opening upon withstanding the [All-out Blow] from Jiu Er's axe.

According to the calculations of previous players, it was almost equivalent to the damage that could be withstood by a target that had a 10-point Constitution and was wearing leather armor.

Yet under these soft vines, it couldn't hold up even for a moment.

In other words, one would only be left with blood and skin if a vine spear like this one hit them. If two spears were to hit them, they would kick the bucket immediately.

I'm done for. Am I in the new Souls Like Game [1] series?

Wandering Child didn't hesitate.

He waved the Elf Rapier in his hand continuously.

He summoned earth walls one after another from the ground like a maze. Innumerable vines reinforced the earth wall and were intertwined with one another.

After fighting with all his might, Wandering Child only realized his fighting power.

It seems a frontal charge of cavalry might also rout me easily.

Although the maze would block the Child's vision, it would also block Jude's vision.

The Child was not a wizard after all.

Using this swordsmanship would only consume his physical strength.

If he couldn't escape after being resurrected, his stamina would still be fully restored.

He didn't believe that a wizard unit capable of sieging a city had unlimited mana.

As long as he consumes mana, I may be able to fight back if I use my physical strength to deplete his mana value!

He made twelve or thirteen earth walls in a row more than two meters high and connected them in vines. Wandering Child felt his stamina had depleted in an instant.

A strong sense of emptiness came from his lower back, and he felt his legs go weak as he almost fell to his knees.

...But there was no hurry.

In the dense forest environment, his physical recovery was relatively fast.

These earth walls should be able to hold up a few waves of attack.

Yet, the ground around him had suddenly begun to shake at this moment.

It wasn't quite the rumbling roar of an earthquake... Instead, it was more like an avalanche from a cake that had begun to vibrate and melt quietly.

The Child was caught off guard, and his feet fell directly into the melting mud.

It wasn't clay... If one was forced to describe it, it was like freshly laid cement.

It's just that the cement was too deep with no ground underneath that he couldn't even exert his strength.

It was too soft to touch to the point that made the Child feel a little disgusted by it.

The earth walls that concealed him also began melting like a melted candle when the ground beneath his feet collapsed. In the blink of an eye, it had become a pool of mud returning to the ground.

A dark brilliance spread out along the ground's surface in the next moment.

Wandering Child opened his eyes slightly.

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This time, he saw it clearly—

A pale gray magic circle that was expanding outwardly had appeared on the ground just now!

It was a circle with a diameter of about twenty meters. It seemed the coverage of the magic circle wasn't too overwhelming.

But it was already too late.

Wandering Child noticed that after the glimmers flowed passed the ground, the ground under his feet had suddenly solidified. The part below his knees had been directly sealed in the earth.

If he exerted force at this time, even the skin on his legs might be ripped off.

“...Ah, I've got you.” Jude said softly and emotionlessly, “I would advise you not to move... You can't hurt me.”

Hearing this, Wandering Child gritted his teeth and gasped.

—I have failed.

The dozen or so earthen walls he had prepared that were entwined with vines were utterly useless. He was confident that he could resist a few rounds of attacks, even if it were the main artillery bombardment of a ship.

He didn't expect this wizard to not be reasonable at all... These earth walls didn't hold up for even a second before they melted.

It's like having two or three waves of soldiers dispatched with the intention to push over the opponent's high ground in one go... yet ended up being wiped out just with an AOE attack from the wizard on the opposite side.

“...Shaping wizard.” Annan, who saw this scene through the live stream, muttered, “I see. This is a profession that counters the Child inherently...”

What he saw just now was exactly what he saw in the ritual earlier— the moment within the “snippets from the future”!

The Child could use the power from nature to control the earth, rivers, and vines. Yet his attack was almost meaningless for a Shaping Wizard who was good at changing the shape of objects.

If he had reached Silver Rank, he might at least end up in a stalemate situation with the other party.

But under the restrictions coming from the rank's gap, the Child had no way to compete with his opponent for the control over each vine and each earth wall.

As long as Shaping wizard's spell flowed through, the “natural terrain” he created would become part of the opponent's power.

He was still alive now because the other party wanted to catch him as a hostage.

Otherwise, Jude would have instantly killed the Child on the spot by having sharp rock spikes pierce out of these earth walls and the ground underneath Child.

Jude's spell that melted the ground wasn't special either.

Annan had seen this trick before.

In Nightmare: White Tower, the pirate captain Karl Mathew, who went by the alias Miss Claire, was a Silver Rank Shaping wizard.

He was able to turn the walls of the wizard tower into heavy mud between breaths. He could also manipulate dozens of tons of mud to flow around him and transform them into walls or to garb the enemy; he could draw out the blood of others in the blink of any eye, transforming the blood into flying sharp blades. He could even reshape his body in an instant to become a whole different person with regards to height, figure, appearance, and skin. Even his clothing and voice could be changed.

In comparison to Captain Karl, the man in front of him by the name of Jude had a Shaping Wizardry level that was lackluster.

An obvious spell casting trace could be seen during his Shaping process. The magic circle did not disappear, and a lot of preparation time was required. He also couldn't simultaneously control the two Shaping elements. Moreover, he only managed to convert a dozen or so of the vines into sharp spears.

And most importantly— his spell casting range was too short.

The Shaping could only be performed on objects within 20 meters of his surroundings.

Such a pity. Annan smacked his lips.

If he was there himself, he might be able to retain Jude directly... as long as the other party didn't use curse vessels or drugs.

He would first use [Frost Arena] to freeze the ground and vines, making the surface brittle so that the [Frost Wheel] could directly kill the opponent, force the opponent to dodge or intercept it... And each time the opponent would run, attack, dodge, or be attacked, [Frost Arena] would instantly bring damage to him.

On the other hand, the invisible [Impeding Wall] could completely intercept the opponent's attack. The mirror-boning knife that he would be continuously throwing also wouldn't be able to be Altered into his opponent's power. Frost Arena's freeze would also bypass the opponent's barricades.

Although Jude had completely restrained Child, he was also entirely restrained by Annan.

With Jude's spell casting range, Annan could roughly guess that his Perception attribute may not be as high as his own.

Is it possible that I'm actually very strong? Annan was lost in thought.

Seems like it.

His wizard profession had fully met the standards of Bronze Rank. There wouldn't be much difference between their profession levels... It was also impossible that he had fought in less nightmare than Jude.

It would be best if this guy would enter the ruins directly after killing the four of them. Annan could advance or retreat, attack or defend, fight or bypass with this quality. He could basically get around easily.

It also didn't matter even if he were to capture the Child and keep the Child by his side. The Child could coincidentally become a mobile surveillance. Annan would be able to get everything he wanted just by spying on the two.

What Annan was most worried about now was if Jude were to directly seal the Child and Citalopram in storage and then bring them back to Black Tower.

Then it would be troublesome.

Nobody knew whether wizards had any sealing spells. Annan also didn't want to write to his senior for help over this kind of thing. It would be embarrassing.

— Yet at this moment.

The sudden change in the situation immediately shocked Annan.

Just as Jude walked over to the Child, a whistling sound was heard.

Jude turned his head warily, only to see a serval pounce on him.

The rattan spears around him shot outward in the blink of an eye, but the serval managed to avoid them all, given its agility.

Just as a rattan spear was shifted away, a silent arrow that was shot out from the dense forest had arrived. The spear that was initially floating by his side was also previously blocking Jude's sight; the sound of the spear shooting out had also covered the whistling sound of the arrow.

It nailed precisely into Jude's left brain and shot out from his right brain!

Jude's head slanted to the right with the inertia of the arrow, followed naturally by his body's collapse...

In just an instant, he had lost his life.

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[You have killed a Silver Rank enemy in battle. As a result, you have acquired 980 Shared Experience points.]

A notification panel appeared before Dove's closed eyes, telling her that she had gained tremendous experience.

"...Phew." The corners of her lips twitched a little, and only then did she relax a little.

That shot was refined archery that she was most proud of. Within a distance of 100 meters, the arrow crossed countless branches and vines. Yet aside from merely brushing some leaves, it was not blocked by any obstacles in the dense forest. In the end, she hit the opponent's weak spot with devastating power, penetrating through the target's head.

This was an archery skill that could never be replicated on Earth because the enemy wasn't in her sight at all.

While the leaves were blocking Jude's sight, they were also blocking hers.

The serval was constantly running through the dense forest that provided her the necessary vision to execute it, allowing her to find the one and only "trajectory" that could help her avoid all obstacles.

It was also by relying on the serval's vision that she could hit the enemy with her eyes closed when shooting from a blind spot.

She decided to attack only after analyzing Jude's attack pattern, which allowed her to perceive the possibility of taking down this opponent.

And, she didn't even inform the Child that she was going to fight back.

The purpose was so that the Child's act would be more realistic for Jude to let down his guard— if she wanted to deceive the enemy, she must first deceive her teammate.

The speed at which she escaped had already told Jude that she was not a Transcended. The fact that she fled into the jungle with a longbow on her back was not because she didn't know that the use of bows and spears was extremely limited in this environment.

Instead, this was a trap that Dove had deliberately laid down.

It wasn't that Jude had no intention of killing Dove. Instead, he simply knew that he couldn't stop Dove when she escaped into the forest.

He also couldn't simply enter the forest... That would be too dangerous.

The coverage area within his senses was closely related to his Perception attribute.

When the Perception attribute was between 10 and 40 points, the Perception attribute could provide non-visual senses for the Transcended. Beginning from approximately a 10-point Perception attribute, one could directly sense the subtle situation taking place within a hemispherical range with a one-meter diameter without needing vision or hearing.

In other words, a wizard of Silver Rank would be able to quickly detect the danger within an approximate 10-meter range, regardless if it was an approaching trap or an enemy who was sneaking behind him.

The firearms and weapons of this world had just been invented not too long ago. Hence, the hit rate towards the torso was within about ten meters during battle. If it were any further, the hit rate would be a gamble if both themselves and the enemy could not stay still.

As for an arrow, an open place at the range of more than ten meters allowed him to respond to it in time.

Thus, there was [Instant Spell] — a spell that existed for taking action at such a distance.

But if he was deep in the forest, it was no longer a question of whether he could react in time. Under the circumstance that the space was too narrow, there would be no room for execution.

Dove knew from the beginning that Jude would not come after her, especially with the Child's attempt to hold him off.

She had already used her affection ratings to ask Annan for information about the general fighting style of each profession.

Typically speaking, the mana value of wizards was limited, and not all wizards had an erosion rate as low as Annan's. In their process to seek advancement, they were put into situations unable to cast any spell in challenging many nightmares.

Unless they happened to have a fellow wizard in the nightmare, or else their strength would undoubtedly be the most weakened.

Professions such as swordsman, hunter, and lurker usually fought in dangerous places. Hence, they would tend to react very quickly when encountering a sudden danger. They had rich combat experience knowledge of dealing with emergencies and could even subdue or assassinate enemies with their bare hands.

Not to mention the priests... Priests did not have profession levels, which meant their strength would not be suppressed by the character's attribute they got in nightmares.

— It was only wizards who succumbed to such a weakness.

It was even more difficult, especially for the academic wizards, to exert their strength in nightmares. They were overly dependent on their spell combo. This was the intel that Annan had dedicated to Dove in the first place.

Therefore, the vast majority of wizards' erosion rates would not be too low because the number of times they had died in a nightmare would be relatively higher. An increase in erosion rate would also mean a decrease in the safe mana value they could use— They would only be able to regain their safe mana value if they maintained a “passing rate” for a while.

This was also why older wizards were challenging opponents.

The wizard's demand for nightmares was second only to the priest in the current mainstream profession. And the wizards who were old and had not lost control were elites who fortunately managed to survive countless nightmares. They were good at dealing with various situations and used their power reasonably.

Even after exempting the level difference in calculating Transcendeds' strength, it was not guaranteed that a Bronze Rank wizard with sufficient experience wouldn't be able to defeat a young Silver Rank wizard.

Dove also had a clear understanding of this living being called “human”.

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Although she had fled far away, she could still vaguely sense Jude's emotions and personality through the monitoring and surveillance of her serval.

He seemed like a scientific engineering man who had continued engaging in research upon graduating with his doctoral degree. He had obvious arrogance and had not been in a good mood lately. He was slightly anxious with a somewhat twisted brain and possibly still believed in disproved theories— Jude's attack model was methodical, but it also had some discipline that you could tell he had come from a science background.

Such an enemy can be defeated.

Dove was confident about it.

There was only one chance for her to launch a sneak attack.

After she escaped into the forest, Jude would let his guard down towards her.

There was also some distance between him and the forest, which allowed him to observe anyone who would jump out from the woods. This would instead make him ignorant of attacks coming from this “direction” he labeled to be safe.

Jude's spell casting range was about 20 meters in diameter, which was almost the same as his Perception range. The vines around him that he stole were the “fences” he created to protect himself.

When Jude realized that Child's ability was entirely restrained by him, he would gradually relax his vigilance.

Dove noticed two chances for ambush in which Jude had shot out all those vines, but she didn't act yet.

It was because arrows took time to travel, and vines retract faster than that.

In other words, attacking only when the opponent was found to be vulnerable would already make it a tricky task.

She also couldn't use any marking ability from the [Hunter], nor could she use her profession to support her shot.

With a Silver Rank Wizard's Perception attribute, the opponent could definitely detect the curse fluctuations of the Transcended ability that was lower than him by two soul levels.

Dove's biggest advantage at this moment was that she was completely "invisible".

The problem was that her attack power was not enough.

If her strength and the penetrating power of the arrow were strong enough, there was no need for her to worry about the trajectory at all. As long as she let out the serval, she could continuously shoot undetectable arrows at Jude from the forest.

To kill Jude, Dove needed to make Jude go to a designated position, ensure that he would only shoot out his protective rattan spears after Dove had released her arrow, and ensure that his naked eye couldn't see the arrow.

She would only be able to kill him in one shot if these conditions were met.

"—Dove is awesome!"

"—Holy crap, how did you do it?"

"—How did you do it?!"

"—Chill. That isn't a game-breaking hack."

"—Jude: I'm done, a single shot within a split second. What can I say?"

Realizing what Dove had done, the bullet texts flooded the streaming channel even when only a few dozen players were there.

It wasn't just those players, and even Annan was stunned, "...What kind of monster is this woman?"

That's a longbow, not a sniper rifle...

It was fair to say that Dove had killed the Silver Rank Wizard singled-handedly despite the rank gaps. Even if there was another explanation in which the Shaping School wizards lacked defensive measures, this was still too shocking.

For a moment, Annan didn't know whether to say that Jude was a noob or if Dove was too OP.

He hesitated for a while and then sent two bullet texts,

"—Dove is awesome!"

"—Sister Chocolate is awesome!!"

Soon, other players followed him and started spamming,

"—Sister Chocolate is awesome!!"

"—Sister Chocolate is awesome!!"

"It's Dove, not chocolate!" Dove was angry, "My real name is Dove!"

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"...That's about it." Annan briefly described his itinerary for the next few days, "If everything goes well, I should be back within a week."

Hearing this, Kafni nodded slightly. "Got it."

She then tilted her head towards the left in confusion as she asked, "But why are you telling me this?"

Lin Yiyi, standing aside, quickly took a picture of Kafni. After cropping out a part of it, she added a line of words under Kafni's expression, "Small eyes filled with big confusion," and then uploaded it onto the forum.

The two posts that Lin Yiyi had been updating for an extended period were [Annan's emojis pack] and [Kafni's emojis pack]. These two posts had been on the homepage for a week and have yet to drop off from the news feed because of Lin Yiyi's diligent updates.

With Lin Yiyi's increased understanding of the forum mechanics and the rapid spread of Annan's emojis pack, she had become more excessive in doing this.

For example, the expression pack she made had transitioned from jpg formats to gif.

But Annan could only pretend not to know anything.

Kafni suddenly seemed to be thinking, like she had understood something, "Your Highness, do you want me to go with you?"

"Is it to collect advanced materials? Do you need my protection?"

"If you want, you may come along. But in fact, I can go by myself. The ruins are safe." Annan was silent for a moment, then said earnestly, "I just thought of telling you."

"I can't leave without saying goodbye. If I had snuck away and you don't know where I am, you might be scared."

"...Your Highness thinks that I'm some kind of baby animal?" Hearing this, the corners of Kafni's mouth rose slightly. Then, her soft and ethereal voice was heard, "I won't be afraid."

"After all, I grew up alone..."

...I don't think you'd be scared either.

Forget it. It's almost time.

Annan nodded and said politely to Lin Yiyi, who was beside him, "Then while I'm away, Roseburg will be in your care."

"Eh?" Lin Yiyi was a little surprised, "Your Highness, aren't you taking me?"

"Am I not your bodyguard?"

"It would be too slow to travel with you. It would be faster for me to travel by myself." Annan let out a cold voice and explained solemnly, "I'm going to look for the Child... As I see it, I'll just have to follow their tracks, and there is no pressure."

"If I'm in danger, I'll look for the Child to come to my rescue— they'll be closer to me."

"...Ah." Hearing such words, Lin Yiyi subconsciously responded.

As the Child and the rest were mentioned, she subconsciously thought of Dove's dazzling archery from just now.

Are these second-batch players all monsters? Thinking of this, Lin Yiyi couldn't help but feel a little ashamed.

Aside from efficiently and quickly attaining the affection ratings of Annan and Kafni, what else could she do?

She then gently embraced Annan who was sitting on the stool from behind and held his head in front of her under Jiu Er's exasperated bullet texts bombardment on the stream. She swayed slightly from side to side as she sniffed the cedar and citrusy aroma on Annan.

Each time, she would clearly realize the beautification effects she had chosen when creating her character were of great help.

Annan had gradually gotten used to this level of intimate acts from Lin Yiyi that also happened to Kafni. As long as it didn't affect him, he generally wouldn't reprimand Lin Yiyi.

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He also clearly knew that this was already considered a more polite and restrained behavior of the players.

This was also why Annan didn't have much reaction despite Kafni's staring at Lin Yiyi.

Of course, if the muscular bald head Delicious Wind Goose were to make such a move, Annan would struggle with all his might.

After all, there was an obvious difference between the sense given by shampoo and that of a chokehold.

Annan had always been firm and quick in taking action.

Like what he had said, he wasn't here to seek help from Lin Yiyi and Kafni this time. Instead, he came to say goodbye to them with his luggage packed by Lin Yiyi yesterday.

After saying goodbye to Lin Yiyi and Kafni, Annan immediately left Roseburg.

However, Kafni got a visitation notice from Don Juan Geraint within two hours after Annan left.

"...Don Juan's second brother is coming to Roseburg the day after tomorrow?" Kafni reread the cover of the visitation notice with some confusion.

She was lost in thought for a moment.

Kafni could react for a while as to who exactly was Don Juan.

It seems to be the identity used by His Highness Annan as a disguise...

On the other hand, Lin Yiyi was surprisingly a little flustered.

After the messenger left, she asked Kafni, "Your Royal Highness, should we urge for His Royal Highness Annan to come back? He should not have gone too far..."

“What for?” Kafni looked back towards her strangely.

“Ah?” Lin Yiyi was a little dumbfounded, “But doesn't the feudal lord, no, the brother of 'Don Juan Geraint' want to see him?”

“If he wants to see His Highness, he will definitely see through his disguise, right? So, it's a good coincidence for Annan to be outside.”

Kafni interrupted Lin Yiyi, “This is good news, Yiyi. We are not lying... 'Our feudal lord' has indeed gone looking for advancement clues. Eugene Geraint is a conservative person, and he will not have any conflict with me.”

It was only then that the cunningness and majesty of a princess were seen in her, “We just have to let Eugene Geraint leave before Annan comes back. As long as I'm here, I won't let him see Annan.”

Unlike her firm tone, Kafni's voice was always soft, as if she was whispering in the ear of someone who was half awake.

Ordinary people might not be able to hear what she said... But Lin Yiyi had been in contact with Kafni for so long and had long since gotten used to Kafni's tone.

Eugene Geraint. Lin Yiyi murmured, noting down the name.

Will this be an NPC or an elite monster? With Annan being away for a few days, she so happened could give herself a vacation and watch other players' streams leisurely.

The Child and the others would officially begin their adventure in the Elven Ruins once Suuankou and the others came online tonight.

Lin Yiyi was now most worried about whether this guy named Eugene would be troublesome, hence affecting her watching the fun.

And, of course...

The day this nobleman from the royal capital, Eugene Geraint, arrived in Roseburg was also the day Delicious Wind Goose would enter the royal capital.

The Righteous Player(s) Chapter 308

Suuankou had just finished his work quota for live streaming in his original Earth. After he checked up on Dove's stream recording and listened to the vivid description from the Child, he was amazed, “...Fuck, how are you so brave?”

He was regretful about it. If I had known that an elite player was just around me, I would have just applied for leave for my work!

In the end, I didn't expect that my character just died once for nothing.

Dove gained experience, and Citalopram and Wandering Child were kept as precious materials because of their potential to be precious materials. Only he was crushed by Jude's stray AoE attacks...

As soon as he went online, he found himself dropping by one level.

Dove, who was at the same level as him previously, had already reached Level 10.

Also...

“That's a Transcended opponent of Silver Rank...” Suuankou muttered.

In addition to yearning for the experience points, he was also excited about “defeating such a powerful enemy”.

In terms of the Suuankou's knowledge in the Transcended world, his understanding of a Silver Rank Transcended was quite limited. He didn't have much chance to encounter them.

A Silver Rank Transcended seemingly could melt and collapse the surrounding earth even when they stood still. Moreover, they could turn the average vine into sturdy spears at will, and they were a common attack a Silver Rank Transcended could unleash at will.

Suuankou didn't think it was shameful if he were to be defeated against an opponent of this caliber. On the other hand, if he could defeat such an opponent, it would give off an indescribable and intense sense of accomplishment for overcoming a difficult challenge.

Indeed, Suuankou was this type of player.

He was the type that could clear the Getting Over It [1] and its DLC...

“But what's more important now is the new curse that Sister Dove got.”

After they packed up and walked towards the ruins, the Child said seriously, “Since Sister Dove is a hunter-type profession, the feature of this profession is that it can extract curses from the killed enemies.

“And the curse she absorbed is the one Jude used in the video.”

The Child walked at the front of the group with lingering fears, “If it weren't for luck, we really might not be able to kill that guy...”

[Mortals Shall Fear My Name (Resolve Type): You must let the enemy know your real name. In return, your existence will become fear.]

[When your enemy learns your real name, their attempt in blocking, parrying, defending (spell/divine art), and resisting (divine art ability checks) will face an increase in difficulty by 30%. Your success rate in inflicting [Fear], [Intimidation], [Sneak Attack], and [Execution] are increased by 25%.]

[When your enemy does not know your name, the damage you take is increased by an additional 100%.]

“...That's so ruthless.”

Suuankou couldn't help but sigh, “You got to have the balls to equip this curse...”

When the enemy learned your real name, you would become an armor-piercing bow.

The enemy would face more difficulties in blocking and parrying attacks. At the same time, the armor, shield, or the earth wall which the Child summoned would be weakened by 30%.

Suuankou finally knew why the earth wall summoned by the Child was shattered so easily by the vines. It was because the Child subconsciously remembered Jude's name.

Furthermore, the reason why Dove could kill Jude with one arrow was also simple.

She was thinking about how to escape at the time, so she didn't hear what Jude said.

Hence, her attack effectiveness on Jude had doubled.

That was why the Child said they had defeated Jude out of luck.

This was undoubtedly a pretty powerful curse.

But if it was misused, it was also a risky curse.

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This curse's effect was like a glass cannon [2].

“Hiss...” Suuankou took a deep breath, then sighed again.

To be honest, I'm a bit jealous...

If only I could get this curse.

Although the curse was quite compatible with his profession as a Trap Rogue, he could immediately become an assassin-type Roge if he had this curse.

This curse was seeming designed for assassin-type professions or agility warrior-type professions. They made up for the two biggest shortcomings of “the lack of attack power of agility-type professions” and “the lack of intimidation of glass cannon professions”.

Any profession with quick movements, fast attack speed, and excellent evasion could make full use of this curse. Except for the two attributes of [Fear] and [Intimidation], they could effectively utilize the remaining magical effects.

Its debuff could be overcome with an ability that provides higher evasion.

As long as one doesn't get hit, it didn't matter how many times the incoming damage was doubled.

“When I advance, I also want to get such a curse,” Suuankou muttered with some longing.

But... He looked at the Wandering Child strangely.

“Sister Dove”, what do you mean?

Dove appears to be around fourteen or fifteen years old. Considering that she may be relatively young, I guess she is seventeen or eighteen years old...

Child, you're approaching your 30s, don't you feel shameful for calling her sister?

But seeing Dove's calm expression to this address, Suuankou subconsciously “hiss” again.

I think I have missed a lot of things by not going online...

“Sister Dove, it's not a loss to get this curse.”

The Child explained, “I heard from His Highness Annan that the specialty of the [Hunter] type profession is that it can absorb a lot of curses from others. Their main combat approach is to form a skill build by stacking and chaining the curses together. In other words, the most important thing isn't how good the positive effect is, but how weak the negative effect is. The most important thing is to avoid forming a bad chain reaction with other curses.

“Dove's main fighting approach has been bow and arrow. Then, the negative effect of this curse, 'increase in damage suffered' is negligible. Even if she does not deploy the curse, she is only losing out in increasing her damage output.”

“What I really like is that it can increase the penetrating power of arrows. If the enemy remembers my name, but I am out of sight, I can launch an armor-piercing attack sneakily.” Dove added, “I can't increase my arrow shooting speed while still ensuring adequate range and power. Even if I have the strength to do so, the bow can't bear the tension.

“Considering the limited number of arrows, increasing the hit rate is much more important than increasing the frequency of attacks...”

“—Stop.” Suddenly, Suuankou raised his hand to signal the party to stop, “There is a trap ahead, or rather a barrier.”

[Skillful Hands] granted Suuankou the vision in highlighting traps which allowed him to see a hazy white light that was not far away.

As he looked over carefully, he could barely tell that it was a transparent film that looked like a blown foam and glowed like the rainbow lights under the sun.

“Password...” Suuankou muttered.

Citalopram immediately stepped forward and replied calmly, “Those who cannot learn from death are doomed to repeat the same mistakes.”

After her voice fell, the world in front of her suddenly distorted and changed.

The crooked path emerged from the initial dense forest in front of them.

At the end of that path, there was a lonely and already opened stone gate in the middle of the road.

The gate was about three meters high. It was like some kind of radiation, flashing a conspicuous faint blue fluorescence at night.

It was like Doraemon's Anywhere Door [3]. There was nothing behind the door but only a layer of walls.

But if one were to gaze into the door from the front, it was clouded with thick white fog.

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“This fog...” The Child frowned slightly, a little hesitant.

The Child was aware the world outside the “civilization” was submerged in the cursed Gray Mists. These places were called “restricted areas”.

And, the Gray Mists in the restricted area were filled with materialized curses visible to the mortal's naked eyes.

One notable characteristic of the curse was its unique behavior to flow from the place of high concentration to the place of low concentration.

Since the mortal's souls wouldn't store any curses, they could barely survive in the Gray Mists.

However, they were effective toxins to the Transcended. Any Transcended who attained the “Bronze Rank” and “corrupted” their souls with curses, their souls would have the ability to contain curses.

As long as they entered the restricted area, an immense amount of curse would surge into their body which went beyond their capabilities to digest them. For example, it was like throwing humans into the deep sea. Under the water pressure, the seawater surged into the victim's body through all pores and orifices.

If this door would lead the party into the restricted area, they would just die for nothing.

Even if they could respawn later, they would not be able to return if the system were to respawn them randomly inside the door.

That was when the “Wandering Child” really wandered.

“We have to find a way to test this door,” the Child murmured.

“But, I remember, the mist in the restricted area is called the Gray Mists?” Suuankou frowned slightly, “Those are white fog...”

Excluding the dim environment where the party couldn't see anything in the fog-filled door, the door seemed to be leading to a fairyland — the white fog was like dry ice at room temperature, filling the entire world in front of the party with white fog akin to clouds.

“How can you be certain, Koutsu?”

[TN: Another nickname for Suuankou.]

Citalopram shook her head slightly and spoke hoarsely, “Who knows how gray the Gray Mists are? What if the Gray Mists' grayscale is inconsistent under different conditions?”

“...Well, what you said makes sense too.”

“—However, I really don't think there will be any danger.”

Citalopram said and walked over with interest, “The reason is simple. Salvatore has given the address and password here to Annan, and we know he means no harm to Annan.

“Think about Jude too. He should be the man sent from Swamp's Black Tower. He didn't come to this place just to arrest us but most likely to visit the ruins.

“If it's really the Gray Mists out there, wouldn't it be more effective to have a Soul Snatch wizard kidnapping someone into that place and controlling the victims to bring items back?”

Citalopram's analysis was convincing to the rest of the party.

She was more like the captain than a mascot like the Child.

The Child did not mind it at all.

“...Looks like we'll have to rely on you in the future.

“If there's anything I can contribute, just mention it. If I can do it, I'll do it.”

What he hinted was that he was fine to explore the dangerous area with his life.

Anyway, he was used to this kind of task.

Sensing that Citalopram was better at observation and analysis than he was, Wandering Child made a quick leadership adjustment. He even handed over the commanding power to Citalopram.

Compared with Jiu Er and the others, the biggest problem with his team was that there was only one veteran player among the four — the Child.

Among these four people, he was the only player in the first batch.

Even after considering their status in reality, their seniority in games, their character's level, combat power, understanding of this world, or even their actual age, the Child was the best candidate for the team.

As such, the Child had been doing his best in performing his duty.

He had been online for the most prolonged period and had the most luggage to bear. Aside from the necessary sleep time, his other time and energy were devoted to taking care of the characters left in this world when the rest of the team went offline.

It was more than being occupied by this game for the entire day... Not only did he have to keep his spirits up and be alert to the environment, but he had to go offline when the rest of the party had the most fun.

The situation was just like when he was playing esports professionally previously;

It also felt like the times when he had to perform science experiments in groups at school;

It was also similar to how he played games in collaboration with other streamers.

The Child was used to playing the 5th position in Dota and the support role in LoL.

[TN: In general, his role in the team tends to see the situation on a macro-scale for these MOBA games.]

He knew that he had limited talent, and his only advantage was patience. Therefore, the missions he was on duty for were the most boring and required more sacrifices. However, someone had to do it, and it was necessary.

It happened not because he “liked” to play support but because he thought it was the “right” thing to do.

“I have made up my mind. You all shall wait here while I scout the path ahead.” Citalopram's unique hoarse voice came, seemingly due to her habit as a long-term smoker.

Come and read on our website [wuxia worldsite](#). Thanks

Although she was only a little older than Suuankou among the four and was still a student, her tone was unexpectedly mature.

Her tone didn't have the slightest hesitation, firm and unrelenting, calm and convincing.

“I'm more or less undead to some extent... I might have something in common with the undead in the place. Since it's night, my combat power and perception are at their peak. I think it's the most optimum choice for me to scout the path ahead. I shall turn on my stream now so that the rest of you can observe the situation directly from my perspective.”

Citalopram stood in front of the fog-filled door, looking back at the other three.

Particularly, she put her gaze at Wandering Child — their captain.

Would that be the right choice? The Child was startled.

“You have convinced me. The undead's supernatural vision might trigger additional missions from the system...” Then, the Child was silent for a while and said thoughtfully, “But I still plan to go in with you.

“Please allow my stubbornness — listen to me. The biggest difference between the three of you and me is that I'm a veteran player in games. Therefore, I have the privilege to respawn after death.

“You are newcomers, and you may not know... The streaming function doesn't always work. Sometimes, the streaming's signals will be jammed for certain areas in the nightmare, and we will know that those places are the areas with the most potent curse. For example, look at those White Fog. I'm pretty confident that they will interrupt the signals for the streaming function to work.

“It's like the situation at Old Goose. Annan has great wisdom in setting up the team in that way. You are the only player among us who can become a ghost, and Dove is the most powerful newcomer. On the other hand, Suuankou is the only player who can detect barriers and traps.

“For me, my special trait is to have increased combat power in the woods. Hence, my role in the team is to escort the three of you in and out of the ruins. But if there is danger inside, I can activate the respawn privilege and revive infinitely in a short while.

“Your role in the team and Suuankou's presence focus more on the ruins. On the other hand, Dove and I are responsible for our safety outside the ruins. So, the two of us can afford to die, but the two of you can't. Go it, Sister Dove?”

“Yup.” Dove nodded calmly.

Seeing this scene, the pressure on Suuankou had significantly increased.

To protect me?

Damn it!

What's going on? It sounds like I'm a liability to the team...

He gritted his teeth and muttered softly, "Be careful."

"Do take note of this..." The Child pondered for a while and said, "You can see my level through the forum. If the message and comment functions are deactivated after entering the ruins, and you can't contact us via the forum, you all shall come in ten minutes later."

"If it's dangerous inside, you will see that Citalopram and I have each dropped one level or more. If that happens, don't come in and go offline immediately. We will both find a place where we can sleep and go offline. Then, we can go offline and ring a call to discuss the matter in detail. If we don't die in ten minutes, you just come in. If Citalopram is dead and I'm not dead, then it must mean that we are separated, or I think the danger isn't too serious and fled. It means you can come in."

"Lastly, if I die within five minutes of entering and only die once, that means I have activated the respawn privilege after dying once and asking you for help. Then, you shall come in immediately... Got it?"

The Child passed his guidelines down calmly.

Even if the place worked like a nightmare, deactivating the forum functions... there were still ways to send a warning or a signal for help.

This was absolutely impossible to achieve if Citalopram went in and died alone.

After getting the affirmation from the two, the Child held Citalopram's forearm. He didn't want to grab Citalopram's hand directly, given they weren't so close.

To his surprise, Citalopram grabbed his hand without hesitation and chuckled, "We're off."

This feels like she is laughing at me.

The Child muttered in his heart but did not speak it out.

What happened after that did not exceed his expectations—

As he stepped into the fog door, his streaming function was immediately cut off.

A prompt that he had never seen before suddenly appeared in the endless Gray Mists. The texts came scrolling down the screen line by line hastily:

[Basic Influence: Whispers of Grace not detected.]

[Basic Influence: Nature's Anthem not detected.]

[Advanced Influence: Gravity of the Stars not detected.]

[Undetected Advanced Influence: Fable of the Moth.]

[Awakened element not detected.]

[Detected the Legacy of Orser: Forest Walker].

[Additional checks are in progress...]

[Identity Check: Other-worldly being, summon, humanoid, human, male]

[Authority Check: Apprentice]

[Specimen stored at Library III-251-11 is opened for a restricted time. The allowed respawn count is set to 1.]

[Falling into a public nightmare... You have substituted into a new identity.]

[Loading completed.]

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Is this a nightmare?

Can I just enter a nightmare simply by walking through a door?

When the Child saw the prompts, he suddenly felt his right hand empty — Citalopram had disappeared.

The Child was in a trance.

When he finally woke up, he found himself standing in front of a giant tree.

The warm sunset brilliance sprinkled on his face, giving off a heart-warming feeling.

Only at this time did the Child realize that his body had shrunk.

To be more precise, his consciousness entered the body of another young elf.

It was completely different from any nightmare he had experienced before.

Not only that he didn't get any main mission...

Moreover, he still felt the power of nature from the [Forest Walker] profession boiling in his body... His physical attributes were quite similar to his original body too.

What differed was the weapon in his right hand.

It was no longer a rapier but a slender and light glaive similar to what Maiev Shadowsong [1] owned.

“Julian? Julian~” A pleasant voice sounded behind him.

He turned around following the voice and saw a teenage-looking elf girl with silver hair. She wore a white dress with only her left shoulder and left arm exposed, which extended to the length of 10 cm about her knees.

She put her hands behind her back and looked at him curiously, “What are you thinking, Julian?”

“Mom is coming back soon? Or... have you mastered Vine Strike?” The Child was stunned by the elf girl.

It wasn't the “elf's soul” he knew before.

It was real... a living being like the girl next door!

He could even smell the fragrance from the girl vividly.

The place where he stood wasn't a ruin.

Then, his pupils shrank slightly.

At the place not far away behind the girl...

There was an enormous building more than 100 meters high, composed of azure blue luminous rocks, shining with iridescent brilliance and making a strange humming sound. It seemed like a windmill and like a snail shell at the same time, constantly extracting something from the ground.

The part connecting the building with the earth was 100 meters in diameter. The surrounding ground collapsed and cracked as if the water had been drained.

The perimeter of the extraction port was vast and empty until the Child's location. The trees there were chopped with a big open area remained.

Not far away from the Child was a prosperous city.

The giant tree man strolled on the street.

White stags the Child had never seen before gleamed and trotted on the empty air.

There was little traffic on the streets, but delicate vines were entwined around every building and bridge. The patterns on the vines were like art too.

Those "elves" were not what the children imagined; they were not slender primitive people who wore leaf clothes or animal skins that covered a small portion of their bodies and held bows and arrows.

Instead, they dressed pretty modernly... What the Child meant was modern times of his original earth.

There were signs that elves seemed ahead of his era.

The elves weren't wearing the casual clothes he would wear on the street but outfits that gave off the vibe of Paris Fashion Week.

What surprised the Child even further was the airship floating in the distance. In addition, there were billboards in the cyberpunk fashion hung on the giant buildings in the city.

What the hell is this?

Come and read on our website [wuxia worldsite](#). Thanks

#Elf-Punk?

What is going on in your world?

How can this high-tech tree grow upside down?

The Child had many complaints stuffed in his throat, which he couldn't speak out nor swallow down.

It took a long time for the Child to recover himself from the feeling that "he had entered the wrong game".

He looked at the girl in white who seemed to have the word “innocence” written on her face beside him and decided to fool her first, “Ah, I mean... you.”

He pretended to be a little arrogant, raised his head, and made a crisp youth voice, “When will your mother come back?”

“Boffis!” The girl shook her head unhappily and responded earnestly, “My name is Boffis!”

She smacked her hair on the Child's face, making him feel like someone had whipped him.

...But they smell nice.

Fine, at least I have acquired her name for the time being.

The Child secretly rejoiced in his heart.

Since the elf girl's clothes were a little revealing no matter if it was the top or the bottom. The Child, who didn't interact much with the lady, did not dare to look at her for too long.

He touched the tip of his nose nervously, thinking about the following topic in silence.

What should I say...?

“...Ah, the weather is nice today.” After a long silence, the Child said nonchalantly.

On the other side...

After Citalopram stepped into the fog door, she felt the familiar sense of touching the floor with a slight dizziness.

She also found out that her stream was still working fine.

The only problem was...

“...I seem to have lost our captain.” She accepted this reality almost immediately and calmly said to the two waiting outside through the stream, “Don't panic. As the captain said, I'm your new captain now.

“Also, I didn't mean to rob away his leadership. He disappears on his own, and I shall respect his decision.” Citalopram casually chatted with the bullet text while looking up.

Undoubtedly, I'm in a ruin.

However, it's still a euphemism to describe it as a ruin.

The buildings here were even more dilapidated than Ishgard [2], destroyed by the dragon.

[TN: A location in Final Fantasy XIV.]

Even Citalopram couldn't understand what the ruin was originally like or what the place was used for. There were many potholes with smooth surfaces on the ground.

It didn't look like it was blown up by something, but it looked like it was dug up by something.

Soon, she stopped walking.

Citalopram saw a silver-white, translucent ghost of a young girl wandering on the street not far away... It should be a street.

The ghost was wearing a white dress with only the left shoulder and left arm exposed, and the dress extended to the length of ten centimeters above the knee.

The delicate and lovely smiling face attracted Citalopram. First, she was slightly startled, and then she couldn't help but take a closer look.

The ghost had slender and straight legs, clean knees, small and delicate white boots, and cute sleeves covering half of the right palm. Her looming figure because of her exposed left shoulder had even enchanted Citalopram.

Citalopram's breathing grew a little quicker, and her gaze towards the ghost girl was a little more aggressive.

I want to take her home...

—Indeed, Citalopram was someone who would go into a frenzy because of cute and handsome faces.