

## Stay At home 2091

### Chapter 2091 The Ice Caves' Ancient Corpses

There was an endless snowy plain at the north of the Roth Empire.

It was covered in snow and ice all year round, and almost no life forms could be seen after they went deeper into the icy plain.

No one knew how far north one could go, because the temperature dropped as one went further north.

Moreover, there would also be snowstorms and hailstorms, so even a 10th-tier giant dragon couldn't go through all those barriers easily. There were cases where a 10th-tier giant dragon got lost in it.

Just because of that, the snowy plain became a restricted area that all the races avoided.

Right now, at an ice cliff 800 km into the snow plain, Noah waved a piece of red cloth, guiding the purple-striped griffin in the sky to land.

Noah already went up as soon as the griffin landed, and asked shyly, "Boss Mag, did you bring any food?"

Mag looked at Noah, whose nose was red and eyebrows had icicles hanging from them, and smilingly took out a steaming mud case and a small soup pot.

Noah stared and gulped. "Wow, are they Buddha jumps over the wall and beggar's chicken?!"

After staying in the ice plain for a few days, eating hard biscuits that were frozen solid and needed to thaw by the fire and sleeping by the fire at night, he was miserable.

Noah almost cried when he saw the piping hot Buddha jumps over the wall and beggar's chicken.

With tears in his eyes, Noah bit into the beggar's chicken, and said to Mag, "Boss Mag, you are no different than my parent!

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"Don't, please don't. I don't have a son like you. Amy will despise you." Mag quickly rejected him, and looked at the entrance of the cave on the ice cliff.

"You guys have arrived, Boss Mag." Merante quickly strode out of the cave.

"Yes. What's the situation here?" Merante suddenly called him here, but Mag couldn't see anything unusual here. "Come with me. I'll explain as we walk." Merante brought Mag and Irina into the cave.

"Grandpa, don't you want to eat the beggar's chicken and Buddha jumps over the wall before you work again?" Noah's voice sounded behind them.

"You go ahead. I'm not hungry," Merante casually answered before saying to Mag, "We found this ice cave this morning. The septaria oracle had a reaction, and we searched for a long time before we found this cave."

Mag frowned as he said, "Josh was here?"

“We’re not certain, but this ice cave was very weird. You’ll know once you get in there.” Merante didn’t say much, and simply hastened his steps.

After going through a long icy route, the cave became spacious. A giant ice cave appeared, and they were in the middle of it.

Mag’s eyes lit up. He didn’t expect there would be a cave under the ice.

Merante walked to the edge of the ice cliff and pointed downwards. “Look down.”

Mag and Irina looked down, and they turned solemn at the same time.

There was a huge ice surface below the cave, and on top of it were countless human-shaped and beast-shaped holes, as if someone had dug them out from the ice.

There were also some scattered bones and body parts in the holes. There were also recent bite marks

A creepy ambiance shrouded the cave. “This is?” Mag frowned, feeling a chill up his back.

Merante lamented, “I have once read an ancient book that recorded the snow plain in the north as an ancient battleground. Many races battled to their deaths here, and many bodies were left behind.

“These bodies were buried by the ice and snow, and many of them were preserved perfectly. People have been constantly finding ancient corpses in the snow plain, and many of them were mysterious corpses of unidentifiable races.

“If I’m not wrong, this should be one of the ancient battlefields, and many ancient corpses were buried here.”

“Where are the ancient corpses now?” Mag suddenly felt rather uneasy.

“They are missing. Judging from the marks left behind, it happened recently,” Merante gravely said. “They should’ve been taken under control.”

“There are remnants of the evil aura. It’s related to the devil,” Irina said.

She lifted her hand and released a beam of golden Holy Light. It reacted violently with a whiff of black evil aura left on the cliff surface.

Mag was silent for a while before saying to Merante, “Which means Josh might have controlled the ancient corpses here, and transformed them into his servants.” “Yes. If he had been simply absorbing the resentment here, there wouldn’t have been these holes and bitten bodies left behind here.”

Merante nodded. “And I’m very familiar with the methods of controlling the corpses, but he’s using a more sophisticated method that is similar to enchantment.”

“But they were already dead for years. Only their bodies were preserved by the ice and snow. How could he enchant them?” Mag didn’t understand them.

“As long as the resentment exists, he is able to do it, but that is exactly the devil’s scary part.” Merante nodded slightly, and honestly said, “Even our Ghost Clan can do it through certain methods.”

Irina retracted her hand, and coldly said, "He didn't absorb the resentment, but instead chose to control these bodies. What does Josh want to do?"

"When all the races on the Norland Continent decide to put aside their differences and join forces to deal with the devil, Josh will need to have stronger power and more helpers." Mag looked at the densely packed corpses' pits below with a complicated expression, and said, "These corpses will form a mighty undead army and follow him around to conquer the Norland Continent."

"If that's the case, I'm afraid there are many more such ice caverns in the northern snow plain. There are many more ancient corpses that died in battle that were buried underneath it," Merante said gravely.

"Help! Grandpa, there are ghosts!"

Right then, a shrill sound rang out in the cave.

Noah carried the Buddha jumps over the wall, and dashed over with a chicken drumstick in his mouth. Sounds of dense footsteps followed in his wake.

At the same time, the ice walls around the cave suddenly exploded. Ancient corpses burst out from the ice walls, and rushed towards Mag and the rest.

Countless ancient corpses crawled out from underground. They roared as they crawled up along the ice walls. There were thousands of them.

Most of these ancient corpses looked weird. There were three-headed humanoid beasts, giant wooden spiders, giants that only had half of their heads left, monsters with green fur... They weren't any of the races or species that existed now.

Their common characteristic was a red gleam glistening in their eyes as they charged at Mag crazily. "Seems like it's a trap. He knew that we were coming right from the start."

Mag pointed skywards, and the Tian Du sword shot into the walkway like a shadow. All the ancient corpses in the walkway were slaughtered.

"We need to leave this place. The terrain is disadvantageous to us." Irina raised her magic caster's staff, and the Holy Light burst out. The ancient corpses that rushed towards them were decimated.

However, these ancient corpses seemed to be endless. After the Holy Light destroyed one batch of them, many still crawled out from the ground and the walls, and they almost covered all the walls.

A teleportation talisman appeared in Irina's hands, and lit up on her fingertips. A golden light flashed under their feet, but a black evil aura suddenly appeared and erased

it.

Chapter 2092 Rankster!

The teleportation failed, and the four of them were left where they were.

"It's an anti-magic spell formation. It seems like he is well-prepared to keep us here."

Irina frowned. She waved her hand and formed a magical shield between them and the attacking ancient corpses.

“Follow me. Let’s get out of here first.” Mag pressed the SOS button in his pocket, and the longsword flew back to his hand, rushing right into the cave.

Countless ancient corpses surged out from the cave. However, they were no match for the Tian Du sword as it made a path through the wave of corpses.

Merante protected Noya, who was hugging the Buddha jumps over the wall tightly, as they followed behind Mag, handling the ancient corpses which sprung an attack on them from the cliff.

Irina took care of the back with her magic caster’s staff. The Holy Light was just like a magical weapon in the narrow passageway, wiping out everything in the way.

However, the cave started shaking vigorously halfway through, and the ceiling started collapsing. “From the top!”

With a shout, Mag and the Tian Du sword merged as one, and they spiraled upwards.

The everlasting ice became as weak as tofu in front of the Tian Du sword. A pathway wide enough for a person was forcefully made, and soon light pierced through the ice.

Bam!

The ice plain exploded, and a large hole was formed.

Mag pierced through the ice with Tian Du sword in his hand.

Before he could even heave a sigh of relief, a dark shadow dashed over.

Mag wielded his sword subconsciously.

Ding!

The sound of stone and metal colliding rang loudly, making his eardrums hurt.

Mag felt as though he was hit by a sprinting train, and he flew back uncontrollably. He turned in midair and stabbed the longsword into the ice to stabilize himself after flying 100 meters away.

That black shadow rushed towards him once again. A black spear gleamed, and black armor was completely new. His face was expressionless and his gaze was rather empty, with a hint of redness in his eyes.

Mag stood up with his sword in his hand, looking at that familiar face with mixed feelings. Mag did not expect to meet Rankster, who had gone missing, here. Rankster appeared in front of him immediately, and launched his attack.

Mag, who was prepared, did not end up in a sorry state as before. However, he still took a few steps back.

Rankster was also sent flying with a single blow. The spear was pierced into the ground, and he came to a stop after tens of meters.

“Powerful!” Noya exclaimed.

Merante and Irina were also stunned.

There was no doubting Mag’s powers. He had already exceeded the limit of the 10th-tier. Although he could not be considered a god, he was still not somewhere a 10th-tier could go close to.

However, Rankster was able to fight it out with him without falling short, and that showed how strong he was.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

At the same time, the surface of the ice shattered. The ancient corpses started crawling out, covering the entire plain, and rushing towards Merante and the rest.

Mag blew a long whistle.

Howl...

Ah Zi flew over from afar, and spat out a lightning ball, wiping out an entire patch of ancient corpses as it flew towards Irina. Rankster fixed his gaze on the purple-striped griffin. He raised the spear in his hand and aimed at Ah Zi.

“I am your opponent!” Mag shouted. He waved his hand, and Tian Du sword transformed into a flash of light as it flew towards Rankster, targeting his heart.

Rankster looked away. He retracted his spear, and aimed it towards the Tian Du sword which was flying toward him. The longsword was deflected, but Mag managed to catch it as he dashed towards Rankster once again.

The two weapons clashed. “Go up!” Irina threw Noya up the purple-striped griffin as Merante jumped on the griffin’s back as well.

The purple-striped griffin quickly rose to the sky, dodging the stone axes thrown at them by a giant. At the same time, it spat out a string of lightning balls, striking that giant and turning it into a pile of stones.

“Why is there so much of this stuff!” Noya said with a tremble in his voice as he looked at the plain full of ancient corpses.

Even though he was sitting on the griffin’s back, tens of thousands of meters above(1), he still could not see the end of the mob.

“I’m afraid Josh has already met up with the devil that has escaped from the seal,” Irina said with a frown.

“The moment these ancient corpses go down south, the Norland Continent might face a horrifying catastrophe.” Merante’s voice was also trembling.

“Let’s clear the ancient corpses around first to lighten his load.” Irina quickly looked away. She sang a magical chant, and used the Holy Light Technique to wipe out some of the ancient corpses that were trying to go close to

Mag.

Merante grabbed a handful of black beans from the pocket at his waist and sprinkled it down. When they landed, they transformed into multiple black ghost-faced assassins, dashing towards the ancient corpses fearlessly.

Noya hugged the Buddha jumps over the wall, and was just being useless throughout the entire journey. Mag and Rankster were almost at the climax of their battle. It was not something that the group could take part in or change.

There were no fancy sword projections or overpowering fighting spirits. The battle between the two had gone back to fighting in its very basic form. A swordsman at his peak versus a spearman at his peak. Each attack was out to kill.

Around them, all seemed calm. However, there were actually countless spatial cracks slit by the sword and spear. Some of the ancient corpses that barged in were cut into minced meat.

Back then, when Alex was in his prime, his only worthy opponent was Rankster.

Mag did not expect that after he broke through the 10th-tier, he would meet Rankster again, and the latter would still be on par with him.

The only difference was that this great powerhouse had already lost his senses, and had become a powerful general controlled by the Great Old Ones.

Mag had mixed feelings. He lamented the loss of a great hero and Elizabeth's loss of her father.

She had been looking for Rankster, chasing after him in vain.

If she saw Rankster right now, what would she be feeling?

"Rankster! Rankster!" Mag shouted at Rankster, trying to communicate with him.

The red in Rankster's eyes seemed to flicker a little. However, Rankster quickly fell into a deeper fury and attacked Mag even harder.

Mag's eyes lit up. There seemed to be a hint of consciousness left in Rankster. He was not completely under control.

As Mag tried to block Rankster's attack, he continued calling out to him. However, there did not seem to be any obvious effect other than making him even more hysterical.

"Rankster! Elizabeth has been looking for you! Do you want her to see you like this?!" Mag shouted.

Rankster paused in his dash forward. There was a sign of struggle on his face, and his eyes started to change between blue and red.

It's effective! Mag was elated. After that, he said, "For Elizabeth! For the Frost Dragon tribe! You must wake up! You're Rankster! The king of the Frost Dragon Tribe, Elizabeth's father! You're not a devil!"

"E... li... za..." Rankster uttered with a painful expression. After that, he fell into his hysterical state again, and started attacking Mag.

Mag looked at Rankster with his blood-red eyes, and while he blocked the attacks, he glanced across the sky.

It was apparent that he was unable to wake Rankster up. However, there might be an ancient way. Right now, he could only pin his hopes on Xi to arrive quickly after seeing his message for help. "What's that?!"

Before Xi even arrived, Noya, who was on the griffin's back, called out as he pointed towards the north.

The ice on the surface started to shake, and a gel-like organism the size of a hill covered in scales started crawling out from beneath the ice slowly. It raised its large bat wings, covering the sun.

Chapter 2093 A Gunshot!

A huge, indescribable thing rose up from the ice surface gradually, and the sky turned dark. Countless dark clouds gathered, and a terrible aura spread. Even the purple-striped griffin was shuddering slightly.

The gel-like body that was covered in black scales kept shifting forms like a giant worm. Just taking a look at it was enough to make one feel deep fear. The giant bat wings were thousands of meters high after it lifted them up. The gigantic body still looked immensely huge in this snow plain.

However, it didn't seem to have a head. It only had a gigantic body, which made it look even weirder.

"It's Cthulhu!" Merante said in a trembling voice with deep fear in his eyes.

"Seems like this is the one that escaped from under Dragon Island." Irina's expression turned very grave too. She was grabbing a few single-use talismans.

Cthulhu's power was undoubtable. Dozens of 10th-tier powerhouses couldn't do anything to it while it was in the seal outside Chaos City.

And Mag, who could barely drag it down, was dragged down by Rankster, who was as strong as him.

Without the seal as the shield, the three of them weren't this fellow's match even if they combined forces.

Meanwhile, Cthulhu's appearance made the ancient corpses descend into a greater craziness. Dozens of ancient corpses that could fly took to the air, and flew towards Irina in formations.

Cthulhu let out a sickening sound before wiggling towards Mag. Ice shattered along its path.

The struggle in Rankster's eyes was gone, and a patch of red replaced it. Furthermore, his power seemed to be enhanced as he attacked Mag crazily.

Mag retreated as he battled. At the same time, he shouted at Irina, Merante, and Noah. "You guys leave first!"

Mag was feeling grave. He didn't expect to meet Cthulhu when checking out an ice cave.

Or perhaps, this had always been a trap that Cthulhu had set from them, and they jumped into it themselves.

Mag wasn't Cthulhu's match now, and he only had a 50% chance of winning Rankster. The problem that he had to consider was how to escape and avoid being controlled by Cthulhu and becoming a puppet like Rankster. "Ah Zi, go pick him up!" Irina raised her magic caster's staff, and loudly chanted, "Holy Light, eliminate those evils!"

Glaring Holy Light shot out, and dozens of flying ancient corpses turned to dust. The sky turned clear.

Howl...

The purple-striped griffin let out a howl, and spat out a lightning ball as it dashed towards Mag.

Right then, Cthulhu suddenly turned towards them, and flapped its wings.

Countless black whirlwinds appeared out of nowhere, and ripped space apart. They blocked the purple-striped griffin and gradually surrounded it.

Slash!

The black whirlwinds tore open the tough scales of the purple-striped griffin. Just them touching the griffin could tear a big wound open.

The purple-striped griffin was in pain, and it swiftly turned around to avoid the black whirlwinds that had almost formed a wall.

Irina applied healing magic onto Ah Zi while coldly instructing, "Avoid them!"

Ah Zi transformed into a purple bolt of lightning, and dashed towards Mag again from the side, but it was blocked by the whirlwinds, and wasn't able to break through. Merante used his ghost saber to slash the ancient corpses that appeared behind them stealthily, and said in a low voice, "We have to leave right now. We won't be able to leave if he really starts to attack us."

Noah was already completely in a daze with the Buddha jumps over the wall in his arms. He became a completely useless bystander.

"No matter what, we have to bring him along with us." Irina looked at Cthulhu, who was wiggling towards Mag, and closed her eyes.

Irina's body slowly rose up and hovered in the air.

The golden-red dot at her glabella began to light up, and a tiny golden tree pattern appeared within the red dot. It looked exactly like the Tree of Life.

A faint green beam of light flew over from the horizon, and landed on her glabella.

Irina opened her eyes, and her aura grew stronger and stronger.

"Grandpa, why do I feel that she looks a little different?" Noah sort of regained his wits, and he stared at Irina, who was hovering in midair, with bewilderment. "She's borrowing the power of god." Merante was also looking at Irina with shock.

"God of Light, please bestow me with the power to eradicate this evil presence and cleanse all dirt and sins!"

Irina raised her magic caster's staff up.

A crack was torn open in the dark sky. A beam of golden light landed on Irina and illuminated her.

Irina's aura grew stronger again. Her whole body was engulfed by the Holy Light. She looked just like a god that one couldn't look straight at.

Cthulhu's gigantic body slowed down gradually, and then turned to face Irina.

The body that was covered with scales glittered with red light as though little eyes were staring at Irina.

"Holy Light, judge this evil! Let everything return to calmness!"

Irina pointed to her magic caster's staff at Cthulhu. A huge beam of Holy Light shot out and rushed towards Cthulhu.

The black evil aura collided with the Holy Light, making a sound of something being corroded. Cthulhu's body was engulfed by the Holy Light, and it actually began to shudder.

"It's working!" Noah exclaimed with joy.

Merante didn't appear too optimistic. Instead, he said to the purple-striped griffin, "We'd better back up a little and take this chance to go through the whirlwinds."

The purple-striped griffin seemed to understand his words, and it immediately swooped down. It found a gap that was close to the ground, and it went through it, almost touching the ground. It went straight towards Mag.

Tsk tsk...

Cthulhu made a sound that seemed like shattered glass rubbing against each other. Endless black evil aura gushed out, and eliminated all the Holy Light that engulfed him.

The giant bat wings flapped slowly, lifting his huge body off from the ground. His body wiggled, and a black tentacle emerged from his abdomen. It stabbed towards Irina.

"Oh no!"

Mag parried Rankster away. He paled as he watched that tentacle stabbed towards Irina.

Rankster was holding him back. Mag couldn't help Irina block that attack at that moment at all.

Meanwhile, Irina seemed to have remained in that state after she borrowed power that didn't belong to her.

"Scram!"

Mag sent Rankster flying with one strike before tossing the Tian Du sword out with all his might.

Swish!

The Tian Du sword turned into a flash of light, and flew towards the tentacle that stabbed at Irina.

It was too late.

Mag's heart dropped to the freezing point.

Cthulhu's speed was faster than his. He had no way to slash that tentacle off before it reached Irina.

The golden light in Irina's eyes began to dissipate, and then she saw the tentacle right in front of her.

Right at that moment, a silver light tore open the space, and went straight through the top of the tentacle.

At the same time, a loud bang of gunshot resounded.

Chapter 2094 My Buddha Jumps Over The Wall... Did I Drop It?

Irina, who thought she was going to die for sure, had a light shield surrounding her, which blocked the splashing green liquid. She was still in a daze.

"It's Xi!" Mag's eyes lit up. Seeing that Irina was unscathed, he was relieved. He waved his hand, and the longsword returned to his hand.

This was the first time he had heard such a wonderful gunshot's sound in this world.

The shot was clean and precise, matching the feeling that Xi gave him.

A star-shaped battleship appeared in the void. The giant main electromagnetic gun aimed at Cthulhu and rapidly recharged. Its three main cannons also aimed at Cthulhu. "What's that?!" Noah slowly stood up, and stared at the super iron battleship hovering in midair with disbelief.

Merante also gulped, and softly said, "No matter what it is, the good news if it's on our side."

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The giant cannons roared!

The giant bullet fired by the electromagnetic gun clashed with Cthulhu, who was hovering in midair, and sent his huge body backwards before exploding.

The terrifying explosive waves turned all the ancient corpses within a few hundred meters' radius into dust.

The purple-striped griffin had long turned and flew outwards, but it was still blown thousands of meters away by the explosion's aftermath.

"What a terrifying force. This giant iron beast's so terrifying!" Noah stared blankly at it.

Mag also backed off with his sword. This was the intense bombing by an advanced civilization's starship. He didn't want to get caught up in it.

A round of bombing was completed within seconds.

Cthulhu, who looked like a small mountain, was pushed thousands of meters back by the bombing, and its body was charred. Its bat wings also had many holes.

Meanwhile, the ancient corpses within 1000 meters' distance were reduced to charred bones.

“O ka ga ki gi...”

Cthulhu let out an indecipherable roar. It made the ancient corpses launch another attack on the starship and Mag. Tens of thousands of ancient corpses rushed towards them. They almost stacked together. Meanwhile, Cthulhu also flapped its wings and took to the air. The holes on its wings repaired themselves rapidly, and the wings were soon as good as new. It flew towards the battleship too.

“Hop on. We can’t kill it. Let’s leave here first.” Xi’s icy cold voice sounded next to Mag’s ears, and the ship’s cabin deployed a passageway.

“Ah Zi, enter through that passageway!” Mag leaped onto the purple-striped griffin that flew next to him. They then flew close to Irina, and Mag grabbed her waist. They darted straight into the star-shaped battleship.

The electromagnetic gun at the front of the ship that had finished recharging fired another shot. At the same time, a few cluster bombs were dropped. With the electromagnetic gun’s recoil, they got away from Cthulhu. A rip was created in space, and they left.

Mag looked at the mushroom cloud that rose up in the plain as they retreated rapidly, and heaved a breath of relief. He felt he had just escaped from death.

“It’s so terrifying...” Noah slumped onto the ground. He was soaked with sweat as though he was exhausted.

What was precious was that the earthen jar that held the Buddha jumps over the wall in his arms actually stayed intact.

Merante panted loudly. Although he had experienced life and death many times in his life, he didn’t want to die in Cthulhu’s hands no matter how. He didn’t want his corpse to end up in its possession.

Only then did he realize his naivety. He had actually tried to find Cthulhu and kill it for the past hundreds of years.

Irina approached Mag, grabbed his hand, and concernedly asked, “Are you alright?” “I’m fine. It’s just a small injury.” Mag shook his head. He looked at the wound on his arm that was slashed open by Rankster’s spear.

“What’s this?” Irina asked as she used healing magic on Mag.

It was a spacious room with iron walls. Only the out-facing sides were transparent glass.

“She saved us,” Mag said.

Irina was thoughtful, but she kept quiet. Right then, the door at the side opened, and a woman in a white tight bodysuit walked out from the control bay.

Noah and Merante turned and looked at her with shock before descending into unconsciousness immediately.

“I will erase their memories,” Xi said to Mag, and then her gaze landed on Irina.

“This is my wife. She’s someone who should know about this, and she can keep a secret.” Mag introduced Irina.

“Thank you for saving me.” Irina thanked Xi.

If Xi hadn’t appeared earlier, Cthulhu’s tentacle would have pierced her heart.

Xi nodded slightly and retracted her hand. “Cthulhu has controlled many ancient corpses. I’m afraid this ice plain will become the source of his army. The countless ancient corpses are going to bring a catastrophe to the Norland Continent,” Mag told Xi with a grave expression, and then asked, “Perhaps, the Elder Things has a solution to kill it?” “Cthulhu won’t die and can’t be destroyed. We can only reseal it. Even the Elder Things cannot kill it.” Xi shook her head.

Mag felt dread. Xi and the Elder Things’ advanced battleship were still unable to kill Cthulhu. This wasn’t good news.

It wasn’t easy if they could only reseal it. “The Elder Things made a promise before. They cannot enter the Norland Continent en masse. You have to depend on yourselves to defend against Cthulhu and the zombie horde that it controls.” Xi shook her head. “Are you for real?” Mag raised his eyebrows. The individual strength of the ancient corpses couldn’t be underestimated. They were estimated to have kept about 60% of their power from when they were alive. Moreover, they were unafraid of death under Cthulhu’s control. They were the perfect loyal soldiers. The group were not sure how many ancient corpses were controlled by Cthulhu. If there were millions of them, even the entire Roth Empire couldn’t stop them from moving southwards.

“Stopping the ancient corpse army is the crux, but only killing Cthulhu or resealing it can solve the root of the problem,” Irina lamented. “Furthermore, although we didn’t see Josh today, what happened today seemed to be his arrangement.”

Xi nodded. “Cthulhu was cut in two when it was sealed back then. Its head was sealed at the central seal point, while its lower half was sealed under Sky Isle. “Its head is even better at mind control. These ancient corpses aren’t controlled by its lower body. They might be indirectly controlled by the puppet that had entered the head’s control.”

“We missed it today. It won’t be easy to find it again in this vast snow field.” Mag frowned.

“I have placed a tracking device on it. I can locate its position.” Xi raised up a virtual screen, and a red dot was moving quickly on it.

“But the problem now isn’t finding it, but how to reseal it and find the ‘head’ that is controlling the ancient corpses.” Mag looked at Xi’s virtual screen and nodded. “As long as we can locate him, we can resolve it with the seal spell formation. We can also think of a solution to reseal it.

“However, the most important thing is to unify all the races and quickly establish an alliance to defend against the zombies and prevent them from moving southwards.”

The advanced civilization was undependable. They could depend on themselves to rescue the Norland Continent.

The star-shaped battleship stopped 800 km away from Rodu.

Xi erased part of Noah's and Merante's memories by hypnotism before letting them leave with Mag. "Don't come over!" Noah suddenly jumped up on the griffin's back, and his forehead was covered in cold sweat.

He looked around and met Mag's eyes. Mag was squatting next to him. Then, he snapped his head around and saw Merante, who was slowly waking up. He finally heaved a sigh of relief.

"Wh-what's going on?" Merante also sat up and slapped his groggy head. They had met Cthulhu in the snow plain earlier, and were in a dire situation. He was suddenly attacked and knocked out just as he was about to be swallowed.

"Our luck was not bad. We escaped." Mag tossed two water bottles to them. "But it isn't too good, either. Cthulhu has controlled the ancient corpses in the snow field. Its power has grown exponentially. They may invade the south at any time. We have to establish a resistance alliance before it acts."

Noah tilted his head back and gulped down half of the bottle's water. He looked at his hands, and then looked around at a loss before saying, "My Buddha jumps over the wall... Did I drop

*it?!*

Chapter 2095 Visiting Rodu Palace

Noya was very upset. The Buddha jumps over the wall that had been through the ice cave and braved the ancient corpses with him actually sacrificed itself amidst the battle...

However, the good news was that Boss Mag promised to make another one for him when they got back.

There was probably nothing better than to be able to leave that icy plain, return to the large city full of beautiful ladies on the streets, and even have a piping hot meal.

Mag brought Noya and Merante back to Rodu, back to that house they stayed at.

He naturally would not have time to make the Buddha jumps over the wall for them. It seemed like he could only reward them with two packs of instant noodles.

"Instant... noodles? This name sounds rather evil?" Noya observed the mysterious pack of food while squatting by the table.

"Do you know how to cook?" Merante rolled a stick for himself and smoked as he glanced at Noya.

"Boss Mag says that you do not need to know how to cook to eat instant noodles. You just have to boil water, and pour everything in this packet into a bowl. After that, pour some hot water, and wait for a while," Noya replied, and started cooking.

Five minutes later, the two of them, with a bowl in each of their hands, gulped the soup down, and even licked the bowl clean. "To think that I am so good at cooking. It was all wasted talent," Noya exclaimed as he put his bowl down.

"If you had had this skill in the past, we wouldn't have had to starve in the wild." Merante passed Noya two chestnuts.

Noya cupped his face, and said with grievance, "Grandpa, this is my newly developed skill." "You will have a chance to use it." Merante continued smoking.

"But, Grandpa, what should we do now? We can't defeat that Cthulhu," Noya said after he kept the silverware.

In the past, he had been very confident, and had wanted to go devil-hunting with his grandpa. Now, he knew how scary the devil was, and had lost all his fighting spirit.

This was not an opponent of their level. Even if the devil did not do anything, he could not kill it, either.

"Boss Mag went to seek an alliance with the other races. The Ghost Clan can also play its part." Merante placed his cigarette down. "If Cthulhu were to take control of the entire Norland Continent, everything would be gone."

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Mag made 10 copies of the photostone, and sent it to the hands of the people in power at the various tribes through Chaos City.

After that, he went straight to the Rodu's palace with Irina.

The purple-striped griffin hovered in mid-air outside the palace, and let out a long howl. Immediately, the aura of more than 20 powerhouses came out from within the palace. There were also countless powerhouses rushing over from the center of Rodu.

Multiple defense spell formations were put up, guarding the multiple palace halls.

In an instant, the palace was in battle mode.

Immediately, Mag and Irina were targeted.

The sudden appearance of Alex and Irina outside the palace took all the powerhouses in Rodu by surprise.

"Alex! What matter do you have here so late in the palace?" a powerful voice shouted from the city wall.

Mag looked at the armored general at the city wall, and said loudly, "Marshal Dominic, I need to see King Andre. This concerns the Norland Continent's safety. Please pass the message to him."

"Sure. Please hold on while I get my man to report this to his Majesty," Dominic replied, and instructed his subordinate to report the matter.

Hundreds of 9th-tier and 10th-tier powerhouses started arriving, standing in formation outside the palace. They watched the purple-striped griffin, as well as the two legendary silhouettes on the griffin's back, warily.

The two parties were at a silent standstill.

Rodu palace was the safest place on the Norland Continent. No matter how strong Alex was, he would never be able to barge into the palace.

Even if there were more than 20 powerhouses present in the Roth Empire, they were not confident of capturing Alex and Irina outside the palace.

“His Majesty has ordered to invite Alex and Irina into the palace!”

Not long later, a voice echoed from within the palace.

“Open the palace gates,” Dominic commanded.

The palace doors opened slowly, and the guards standing at the door turned to their side to make way.

The purple-striped griffin landed.

Mag and Irina hopped off the griffin, and walked into the palace.

Dominic led multiple 10th-tier powerhouses down to welcome Mag and Irina.

“Follow me,” Dominic said as he walked in front, and led the two into the depths of the palace.

Six 10th-tier powerhouses followed closely behind them, constantly wary of the two of them.

Mag was silent. The decision had to be made by Andre. To prevent unnecessary panic, it would be best for fewer people to know about it.

The group walked through the long palace corridors, and finally stopped outside a palace hall.

“Marshal Dominic, Alex, and Irina, please!” the official at the door said in a loud voice.

Dominic walked into the hall first.

Mag and Irina exchanged glances before following him in.

This was a meeting hall. It was where Andre would discuss matters with his subordinates. Back then, Alex was a regular here too.

Mag’s night visit caused the hall to be brightly lit. However, there was only Andre sitting on the master seat.

The moment Mag entered the hall, he was locked onto by multiple powerhouses.

Mag glanced at the shadow behind Andre. He furrowed his brows, but quickly regained his composure.

Dominic sat to the left of Andre.

“Alex, Irina, please take a seat,” Alex said with a smile as he motioned for them to take a seat.

Mag and Irina sat in the last row of seats.

“What matter do the two of you have at such wee hours?” Andre asked Mag. “This is what we experienced today in the snowy plain in the extreme north of the Roth Empire. Your Majesty, please take a look.” Mag pulled out a photostone. Andre raised his hand, and an attendant walked over quickly to retrieve the photostone from Mag’s hand. After that, he played it with the apparatus in the meeting

hall. This was a video Mag told the System to record down during his battle. The video captured images of the ancient corpses that had vanished from the underground cavern, his battle with Rankster, as well as Cthulhu crawling up from beneath the ice, commanding countless ancient corpses to launch an attack on them.

“This?!”

Andre’s and Dominic’s expression changed when they saw the footage.

Dominic even sprang right up from his chair.

“This... What is this?!” Andre’s voice was trembling. Although it was just footage, the unknown gel-like organism covered in scales was still an impactful image. He could even feel the fear from deep within his soul.

“This is Cthulhu, a devil from hell. It is a monster that has escaped the seal at Golden Dragon Island and cannot be killed,” Mag introduced calmly.

“It controlled those ancient corpses? To make them fight for it?” Dominic asked Mag.

“Yes. It used some way to control these ancient corpses, and made them maintain 50 to 60% of their powers from when they were alive. On top of that, these ancient corpses were fearless, and would abide by all commands.” Mag nodded.

Dominic’s expression turned grave. As the marshal of the empire, he knew very clearly what such ghost soldiers meant. No matter how elite the empire’s cavalry was, he was unable to ensure that every soldier would be fearless, and would abide by all commands.

Andre had regained his composure as he asked Mag, “Are they heading south?”

“I think it did not revive these dead souls to throw them a party in the icy plains,” Mag said with a smile.

“...” Andre.

“It seems your previous conjecture was right. The seal beneath Golden Dragon Island was related to Rankster. He had already sold his soul to the devil,” Dominic said solemnly, and had a hint of pity in his eyes.

Heroes would appreciate each other. As the other party was one of the strongest in this world, Dominic had a rather good impression of Rankster.

However, judging from the footage before, Rankster did lose himself, and turned into the devil’s puppet.

“Rankster still has a hint of consciousness. He has yet to be fully under control,” Mag retorted. However, he did not mention Elizabeth.

“If the devil brings the army of the dead down south, what would you do?” Andre asked Mag.

“If the dead souls and the army of the dead head south, they will first head to the Roth Empire. That is unavoidable.” Mag looked at Andre. “I am here to notify you to be prepared for the battle and not be caught off-guard.”

Andre watched Mag for a while, but he did not speak further.

“You want me to defeat the devil and army of the dead solely with the power of the Roth Empire alone?” Andre said with a frown.

“If you can’t, the Roth Empire will definitely be the first to be wiped out.” Mag nodded.

Dominic fell silent. The road down south from the northern highlands to the Roth Empire would get increasingly flat.

If the devil and its army of the dead wanted to go down south, their only choice would be to start from the Roth Empire.

The Roth Empire had no choice at all.

Andre’s expression turned solemn. He said, “Then what will happen after the Roth Empire is wiped out? Can the other races be spared?”

Mag looked at him calmly, and said, “This is actually not what I should be thinking about. Even if I wished to connect all races to form an alliance against the devil and the army of the dead, the final decision would still ultimately fall on the hands of you people in power.”

“You should know better than anyone how this would affect the fate of the entire Norland Continent!” Andre said as he looked into Mag’s eyes.

Mag asked, “Do you think the different races would send their troops to help the Roth Empire fend off the devil and the army of the dead if there was no peace accord?”

“Are you threatening me?”

“No. I am just telling you that there is no point in threatening me at a time like this.” Mag pointed at the final image of Cthulhu on the screen, and said, “If you think that the Roth Empire alone can handle this fellow, this world will be yours.”

Andre looked at Mag and fell silent. Evermore silent.

Mag looked at him calmly, and did not speak further, either.

Dominic broke the silence as he stood up, and told Andre, “Your Majesty, we need the help of the various races.”

As the marshal of the empire and the commander of the three military forces, he had to clearly tell His Majesty what kind of situation and enemy the empire was facing.

Chapter 2096 Mark: Unknown Food Item No.1

Mag and Irina received a contract from Andre when they left the palace.

The Roth Empire was willing to join the Peace Alliance and sign the new peace accord.

As a condition, every race in the Peace Alliance had to deploy a large army to stop the devil and its army of the dead from coming southwards together with the Roth Empire.

“Where are we going now?” Irina asked Mag.

“You’ll go home first. I don’t feel good letting the two children stay at home on their own. I need to make a trip back to Chaos City to talk to Michael,” Mag said. “Alright. Be careful on the road.” Irina nodded and returned to the tavern right away with the teleportation portal.

The purple-striped griffin took to the sky, and flew out of the city and towards the south.

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In the great hall, Andre asked Dominic, “With the Roth Empire’s military might, what are our chances of defeating that army of the dead?”

“50%,” Dominic answered.

“Then, why shouldn’t we fight?”

“Even though there is a 50% chance of winning, Your Majesty, we won’t have any usable soldiers left even if we won,” Dominic gravely said. “The dead are different from the living. They have no fear. They have to be completely killed. They have no idea of surrender or failure.

“The snow plain in the far north was an ancient battlefield. Countless ancient corpses were buried there. If the devil has really controlled them, I’m afraid we will be facing an army made up of terrifying numbers.

“Your Majesty, we can still fight with the army of the dead, but we have no way to deal with the devil on our own. At the seal at Chaos City, I have witnessed the horror of that thing with my own eyes. It cannot be killed or dispatched by 10th-tier powerhouses working together.”

Andre was quiet for a long time before he sighed deeply.

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The photostones that were sent to the giant dragons were delivered to Douglas and Louis, who were still in Rodu, immediately.

After the two of them watched the images in the photostone in the secret chamber, they looked at each other, and saw shock in each other’s eyes. “Do you think that it’s real?”

“Do you think Alex would lie to us?”

The two of them were quiet for some time again.

“Rankster is indeed being controlled by the devil, and his power was elevated. He is able to fight with Alex head-on,” Douglas said with a complex expression.

Louis looked equally grim when he gravely said, “A devil that has escaped from the seal is the most problematic, and now it’s even controlling a huge number of ancient corpses.”

“This is a catastrophe that can sweep through the Norland Continent. We, the giant dragons, have no way to stay out of it.” Douglas looked at the image that was paused on that indescribable thing, and felt very heavy-hearted.

Louis nodded, and said, “We can only wait for the results of Alex and Andre’s negotiation. If he can get Andre to join the Peace Alliance and sign the peace accord, then all the races can work together and deal with the devil and its army of the dead.”

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“What’s that?”

After writing the diary and finishing her report, Xi discovered a brown little soup pot in a corner of the spaceship.

The little soup pot looked ordinary. Its workmanship wasn’t sophisticated, and it was even a little rough. It should’ve been left behind by Mag and his gang.

Xi picked it up and shook it gently. There was the sound of liquid sloshing around.

After hesitating for a while, Xi opened the soup pot’s cover.

A rich aroma whiffed out from the little soup pot, and quickly filled the cabin. “Smells good!”

Xi’s eyes lit up, and she stared at the little pot in her hands with disbelief.

This was a pot of soup. There were all kinds of ingredients floating in the brown soup.

Although the soup was cold, it still gave off an irresistible smell. It was even more enticing than the pig tongue salad and pig ears salad that she ate that day.

Did they leave this food behind by accident?

Xi’s throat moved.

Mark: Unknown food item no.1.

As an Observer, she had a duty to investigate all unknown stuff on the Norland Continent, including food.

According to the humans’ dining habits, they will heat up the food to kill the germs and bacteria and make the food taste and smell better.

Xi put the little pot into the heating facilities, and then set a heat-up timing.

Ding!

The heating process was completed.

Xi set up a small dining table, and took out the little pot that was heated up.

Xi turned on the video device, and focused it on the little pot and herself before removing the cover of the little pot.

Steam rose up. The aroma followed after it and blossomed.

Xi's eyes widened a bit, and she stared at the little pot in front of her with disbelief.

This aroma was indeed too special and too impactful!

"I smell its aroma. There should be some kind of mushrooms, seafood, and meat inside. It's difficult to describe this smell with a vague concept. It has clear layers of smell, and yet they all fused together perfectly and harmoniously. It's a very exquisite and enticing aroma.

"The unique thing is, I smelled alcohol's aroma in it. They actually used alcohol to cook."

Xi talked to the camera.

She had never expected herself to use so many adjectives and say so many words.

This wasn't her usual style. However, in order to accurately describe this food item, she had to describe it like that. Xi pulled the camera closer.

"One can see that there are many ingredients in this soup. Meat, shellfish, mushrooms, and many other ingredients that I don't recognize.

"What is amazing is that although the soup is brown, it's very clear. It doesn't look murky or greasy.

"The food's condition is perfect. There are so many ingredients, and yet they were so precisely controlled. This chef must possess very strong control." Xi put the camera further away before scooping up a spoonful of soup. She waited for a while before putting it into her mouth.

The tasty broth slowly nourished the taste buds. Xi felt that her drowsy taste buds were slowly awakened as if they were being nourished by a spring rain. This sensation of being comforted felt so beautiful.

All the different ingredients slowly entered the stage, and released their amazing flavors on the tongue in that mouthful of soup. Even the brain of Xi, who had super senses, couldn't differentiate all the tastes accurately in the short period of time.

She closed her eyes, and seemed to see mushrooms that had just sprouted, a shellfish that was crawling on the seafloor, and a wild chicken that was walking in the grass...

Fresh!

Freshness and the taste of umami!

The rich liquor's aroma seeped into the soup, and gave the latter an even more intoxicating taste.

Xi opened her eyes, and looked into the camera silently for a while before taking another sip quietly. "It's difficult to describe the taste of this soup. It's so exquisite and fresh. None of the food that I have tasted before can compare to it," Xi said to the camera. "Now, we will taste the ingredients in this soup."

Xi used the spoon to scoop up a piece of shark's fin, and put it next to her lips. It glided straight into her mouth.

The shark's fin soaked in the soup had a very special texture and beautiful taste. It glided around in the mouth before it was swallowed.

Then, she tried the chicken. The diced chicken wasn't mushy as she thought it would be; instead, it was perfectly soft and tender. Furthermore, it wasn't just the taste of chicken. The fragrance of the wine, seafood, and mushrooms and all the different aromas of different meats had merged together and seeped into the chicken. All the ingredients' taste were integrated with one another, and one could sense different flavors in all the ingredients. The chicken was soft but not mushy when chewed, and there was an endless aftertaste.

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"I'm sorry. I seem to have forgotten to explain the process."

Xi stared at the empty little soup pot in silence for a long time.

"This recording ends here. Unknown food item no.1, (incomplete)."

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Xi turned off the camera, and stared at the little soup pot for some time.

"What kind of food exactly is this?"

She actually couldn't control her curiosity.

As a formally trained Observer, this was an emotion that she shouldn't have.

Chapter 2097 A Glimpse Of The Dawn

Michael was Mag's favorite leader. Their similar ideas and judgments allowed them to reach a consensus very quickly. Michael looked at the letter of commitment in his hands, and lamented, "This is an event that is going to be written into the history books. You have started a new century of peace."

"This is only a piece of paper, so it's only a glimpse of the dawn." Mag shook his head with a smile. "I don't think you need me to visit all the races one by one, right?"

"The content in this photostone is enough to let all the races reconsider their current situation, and the Roth Empire joining the Peace Alliance means that the pro-war alliance has lost its main support, and is no longer a threat." Michael shook his head. He put down the letter of commitment in his hands, and said to Mag, "Alex, the people of the Norland Continent should thank you guys." Mag smilingly said, "If there are still people who crave war among the demon race, tell them to eradicate all unstable factors in the rear before the allied forces go to the north to attack the army of the dead." Michael also smiled after hearing that.

"In order to deal with those ancient corpses, I have come up with a weapon of mass destruction, but I'll need Chaos City's support if I have to mass-produce it." Mag took out a pile of blueprints.

"This is?"

"Bombs."

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Next, Mag went to the textile factory, and met up with Ashley.

As Irina's closest aide, Ashley was one of the few people who knew his identity. "The situation in the north is tense. I hope the textile factory can stop all its current production first, and quickly produce this batch of cannons." Mag passed the stack of blueprints to Ashley. Ashley took the blueprints, and asked, "Is this the princess' order?" Mag nodded with a smile. "Her order should reach you by tomorrow."

Ashley nodded before flipping through the blueprints. After a while, she said to Mag, "The elves are not good at forging. If it's urgent, it'll be more efficient to let the dwarven blacksmiths do it."

"This stuff is more special. I don't want others to handle it at the moment. I only trust the Night Elves." Mag shook his head, and solemnly said, "I need you to put all your production force into making the cannons. This might prevent mass casualties among our troops."

"Alright." Ashley nodded gravely. Mag worked out some problems in the workmanship with Ashley, and asked her to look for him whenever she encountered any issues. Then, he left Chaos City.

"Host, your behavior has already seriously affected the Norland Continent's normal development. It might trigger a series of upheavals and attract God's attention and punishment." The system's voice rang out.

"System, this is a world where an advanced civilization exists. They are already driving space battleships and using electromagnetic guns. It isn't too much for me to use cannons, right? "Furthermore, I am making cannons to maintain this world's stability. Isn't it too much to say that I trigger upheavals?" Mag said with pursed lips.

Xi's performance at the snow plain today gave him an extreme shock and revelation.

A space battleship could clear tens of thousands of ancient corpses easily at full power.

If they were to send the Roth Empire's knights to the front line, they would really be fighting with their lives then.

Electromagnetic guns were too overboard, and Mag didn't have the ability to make them.

However, cannons were different. Mag had already modified the cannon from the 16th century. It would have a powerful lethality, yet was not so advanced that it would attract the Elder Things' attention.

The zombie army had no weakness psychologically. They would charge forward fearlessly under Cthulhu's control.

However, after being buried for eons in the ice, their bodies weren't as tough as one imagined.

Moreover, the number of magic casters among the allied forces was limited. Additionally, each cannon could be deemed a magic caster that could release fireball magic. If they could manufacture a huge batch of cannons before the war started, it would definitely play an important role in the war.

Mag's idea was simple. The more army of the dead they could kill, the lower the allied forces' casualties would be.

Of course, he had to avoid being targeted by the Elder Things due to the technology that had advanced too quickly.

He didn't want to be sliced up and studied yet.

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"They actually escaped. Interesting..."

In an ice cavern, Josh sat on an ice throne, and smilingly spoke to Rankster at the bottom.

Rankster was silent.

"Since they have escaped, then it's time for us to move southwards. We have been quiet for too long. Perhaps many have already forgotten our existence..." Josh rubbed his hands together gently and smirked.

Rankster nodded and left the ice cavern.

"Alex... The resentment is quite strong. Don't worry. I'll help you get him and make his life hell..."

A low voice echoed throughout the ice cavern.

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The photostones sent to all the races caused a huge stir.

The devil that had failed to break through the seal in Chaos City had already let them witness the horror of the Great Old Ones.

This devil that had already broken out of the seal and amassed a terrifying number of ancient corpses made them shudder.

All the races' representatives had already set out for Chaos City. This event was one that concerned all the races' fate on the Norland Continent. Even the demons who were isolated on the islands didn't think they would be excluded from that fate.

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Before going back to Rodu, Mag made a trip to the employees' dormitory.

Elizabeth still wasn't back yet.

Mag sighed. He didn't know how she would feel if she knew about Rankster's current state.

Taking advantage of the dark night, the purple-striped griffin took to the air again, and flew towards the north.

Mag only reached the tavern in Rodu close to dawn, so he decided to make breakfast as well.

Mag scooped a bowl of porridge for Irina as he told her, "I made a trip to the textile factory yesterday, and got the Night Elves to build me a batch of weapons. Ashley might need your authorization."

"Mm-hmm. I'll write her a letter later." Irina nodded and took the porridge from Mag. "What did Michael say?"

"His ideas have always been similar to ours. Let's leave the Peace Alliance and the new Resistance Alliance to him. He's much more professional than us." The two children were still asleep. Mag got himself a bowl of porridge, and sat across from Irina. "If Auster and those few demon tribes are still making trouble, we'll take care of them first before signing the peace treaty and setting off for the north."

"That's good. We will settle the problems once and for all." Irina nodded slightly. "We're still not sure about the Elder Things' stand right now. If they could participate in the war, the ancient corpses would just be cannon fodder no matter how many of them there were. Even the lethality of one battleship is many times that of dozens of 10th-tier powerhouses combined." Mag frowned.

"What we should worry about now are Cthulhu and Josh. As long as we deal with them, the issue of the army of the dead will be resolved too." Irina shook her head gently.

Mag nodded, and said, "Let me nap for a while before we set off for the north. We'll find a place suitable to set up the seal spell formation."

#### Chapter 2098 First Titan Liquor Brew

"Young Mistress, would this price be raised too high? Would the old customers leave if they saw the price?"

When Mala saw the new liquor pricing put on the wall, she could not help but question it.

The 30-year-old Titan Liquor brew was priced at 3000 copper coins a bottle and 999 copper coins a cup

This was currently the only liquor on the drinks' menu.

There were other side dishes with no changes in pricing.

However, Eiffie had changed their supplier recently, and had higher standards for the taste.

"Currently, only we have this liquor. On top of that, the liquor will decrease the more we sell it. The price might be a little higher, but that should not be a problem." Eiffie shook her head slightly. She sighed, and said, "As for the regulars, they can only wait for me to brew the Titan Liquor and wait for the launch of a shorter-year Titan Liquor brew." "If we sell out all 50 bottles a day, we will be able to reach 150,000 copper coins in a day's revenue!" Mala's eyes lit up.

"All you think about is money. Clean the tavern up quickly. We are officially opening for business tonight," Eiffie said angrily as she smacked Mala's head.

"Alright!" Mala ran to a corner to pick up the broom.

Eiffie looked at the brand-new tavern, and smiled gladly. From today onwards, Titan Tavern finally returned. She had knocked down the wall separating the next shop, and expanded Titan Tavern by two times so that the tavern, which could only hold around 20 tables before, could now fit 50 tables of customers.

Maybe many had forgotten that other than Mag, Eiffie also owned the shops on almost half of Romo Street.

Back when Titan Tavern was in its heyday, her father's favorite pastime was to buy shops.

Other than Romo Street, she had many shops around Rodu.

If it were not for her passion, she would only have to go around in a horse-drawn carriage to collect rent, and would not have to coop herself up in the brewery.

After looking around the tavern, Eiffie returned to the brewery behind the tavern.

The distillation equipment after Mag's revamp utilized coal, which could last longer, as fuel. On top of that, Eiffie did not have to keep a constant watch on it during the distillation process, and just had to check on its progress. That simplified the distillation process significantly.

The grape essence evaporated in the distillation equipment after it was fermented. The vaporized essence then flowed through a long tube into the wine storage, and condensed into an almost transparent liquid.

In the past, the entire brewery would be full of steam when she brewed wine, and the wine fragrance would be wafting everywhere. Now, there was almost no steam escaping in the brewery, and all the essence was retained in the best way.

Ding!

A crisp indicator sounded.

Eiffie, who was deep in thought, was stunned for a while. After that, she recalled that she had to close the air valve to the stove to put out the fire.

The first Titan Liquor brew with the new apparatus was finally out.

Eiffie was full of excitement and anticipation.

The pressure indicated on the pressure valve decreased, and when the pressure was completely balanced, Eiffie brought a cup over to the tap at the wine storage, and turned the tap on. Clear and transparent liquid gushed out, together with a strong alcohol fragrance. "Success!" Eiffie was elated.

This fragrance was exactly the same as what she had smelled back then when she had been playing while her father had brewed wine.

This was also what she had been looking for and trying to create for the past decade with nothing but failure to show for it.

She did not expect that she would successfully brew the authentic Titan Liquor after Mr. Hades changed the brewing apparatus and simplified the procedure.

“It’s a success! Young Mistress, it’s a success!” Mala, who just walked into the brewery, exclaimed.

“This is only half the success. Titan Liquor without at least two years of storage is without a soul.” Effie shook her head, and said, “Mala, go and retrieve the oak barrel. I want to make this brewed wine into a qualified Titan Liquor before transferring it into the barrel.” “Alright,” Mala replied. By the time the first barrel of Titan Liquor was all filled into the oak barrel, it was already three in the afternoon.

“Young Mistress, this is too heavy. We won’t be able to move it.” Mala patted the oak barrel that was almost her height. This was a supersized barrel that could fill 300 bottles.

“Leave it here first. I’ll get someone over to help move it into the cellar tomorrow.” Effie wiped the perspiration on her forehead with a silk handkerchief. She looked at the clothes that were soaked in perspiration with dismay, and said, “I am going to wash and change. After that, I’ll take a break before opening the tavern at night.”

“I’ll boil some water for you,” Mala replied.

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On the first day after Titan Tavern and Saipan Tavern both won the gold award, they stood everyone up, which became an incident that all wine-lovers would diss.

However, precisely because everyone did not even get a sip of water, the two taverns seemed even more mysterious, and attracted more curiosity.

Some rumors about Saipan Tavern also started spreading as well.

Among them was news that Duke Abraham and Princess Vanessa were regulars of this tavern. The identity of the tavern owner was rather mysterious.

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While everyone was curious about Maotai, they also secretly reminded themselves to be careful at Saipan Tavern. Before nightfall, there were already customers pacing around the tavern doors. However, as though the two taverns had discussed it, both doors were still tightly shut, and did not appear to be ready for business. Those who came early could not help but complain.

Effie looked at the eight service staff members from Titan Tavern, and said solemnly, “Today is the first day of Titan Tavern’s opening. It is also the first day we’ve upgraded into a high-class tavern. All of you, buck up. No mistakes are allowed.”

“Yes,” everyone replied.

At the same time, in Saipan Tavern.

Mag looked at the increasing number of customers outside with a frown, and said, “It looks like our tavern should start hiring service staff. Otherwise, we won’t be able to cope with the number of customers. We also have to find someone to operate the tavern when we leave in the future.”

“Do you need me to arrange some manpower from the Night Elves?” Irina asked.

“No. This is Rodu. We have to hire humans.” Mag shook his head. Not every elf could disguise themselves, and it would be easier to find staff in Rodu.

“I’ll be going to the Wind Forest tonight. I’ll leave this place to you.” Irina placed her bowl down, wiped her mouth elegantly, and smiled.

“Er...” Mag looked at the crowd outside, and could already imagine how chaotic it would be.

Chapter 2099 Is This A Failure?

Kurt stood in the middle of the road. He looked at Titan Tavern on his left and Saipan Tavern on his right, and smilingly asked, “So, which tavern are we going to tonight?”

“Only children make choices. I am having all of them.” Fergus shook his head with a smile.

“Then, where should we start from?”

“Saipan Tavern, of course. We only tasted a teeny bit that day, and we didn’t get to sample it closely. I’ve been craving it for the past two days.” Fergus headed straight for Saipan Tavern without any hesitation. “That’s indeed the case.” Kurt followed after him with a smile.

The Saipan Tavern today was much busier than before.

This wasn’t friendly to those regulars who were already used to drinking in Saipan Tavern.

However, they heard that Maotai had gotten the gold award at the liquor-tasting event. Looking at the shiny golden trophy on the bar cabinet, they felt a tinge of pride too.

“This shop’s renovation style looks rather vintage.” Kurt entered the tavern and sized up the tavern’s environment. There was no glamorous decoration and lighting. The down-to-earth wood and dark colors were the main tone. It made people feel comfortable and cozy.

They didn’t come too late, but there were only two vacant tables left now. “You’ll take a seat over there first while I go place the order, otherwise we might end up with no seats at all,” Kurt said to Fergus.

“Sure.” Fergus nodded with a smile. Speaking of it, it had been years since they had to worry about getting a seat.

Kurt came to the bar, and looked up at the drink list on the wall.

Maotai—2000 copper coins a bottle.

It was surprisingly cheap! There were plenty of expensive alcoholic beverages in Rodu, but none could hold a candle to Maotai when it came to quality.

The price of 2000 copper coins per bottle was absolutely reasonable. Whiskey-2000 copper coins a bottle. “What kind of alcoholic beverage is this?” Kurt’s interest was piqued instantly. It was priced the same as Maotai, so perhaps its quality was comparable to the former’s?

Kurt looked around, but he couldn’t find any service staff to place his orders.

“May I ask, what would you like to order?” a soft and cute voice spoke up.

Kurt took two steps forward before he noticed a little girl sitting behind the counter. The little girl was tiny, but she was really adorable.

Kurt revealed a kind smile, and said, "I would like to have a bottle of Maotai, a bottle of whiskey, and a helping of all the side dishes."

"Sure." Amy nodded before quickly continuing, "The total is 4120 copper coins. Because we're too busy, we settle the bill in advance."

Kurt, who was about to return to his seat, faltered in his steps after hearing that. He only saw the boss being busy in the kitchen alone in the big tavern, with only a little maiden serving the dishes. They were indeed very busy.

"What if we need more to drink later?" Kurt teased as he took out his money bag.

"What you should consider is how to return home after you get drunk later," Amy replied with a smile.

Kurt was slightly taken aback before he smiled confidently again.

He had been drinking for decades. He had drunk all kinds of hard liquors and wines before, and he was never drunk just after drinking one bottle.

"Alright, I want to see if this liquor is really so strong." Kurt settled the bill and returned to his seat with a smile.

Fergus smilingly asked, "Why are you so happy?"

"This boss' daughter is so interesting. I ordered two bottles of liquor, and she was worried that we would get drunk," Kurt smilingly said.

"Just two bottles? The little girl hasn't seen how we drank 10 bottles each when we were young." Fergus laughed too.

"I saw that there is another type of liquor called 'whiskey' in this tavern beside Maotai. It's also priced at 2000 copper coins like Maotai, so I ordered a bottle of whiskey and a bottle of Maotai each. We can order more later after we taste them."

"Whiskey?" Fergus said with shock. "Since it's priced similarly to Maotai, it means it's a liquor that is on par with Maotai in the boss' heart."

"Interesting. I want to see if this boss can indeed brew another equally outstanding liquor as Maotai," Kurt smilingly said.

The two of them waited for a while before Mag came over with two bottles of liquor and three side dishes.

Mag wasn't surprised to see Kurt and Fergus, because he had already seen many familiar faces from the liquor-tasting event.

Mag put the things down, and smilingly said, "I didn't expect the two of you to come too."

“We only had a few sips that day. It wasn’t enough, so we naturally had to come try it again.” Kurt looked at the two bottles on the table, and curiously asked, “Mr. Hades has two kinds of liquor, so why did you only send Maotai to the liquor-tasting event?” “I heard that the liquor-tasting event only had one gold award.” Mag nodded slightly before walking to the kitchen.

Kurt and Fergus were slightly taken aback. They only regained their wits after Mag turned around.

“I haven’t seen such confidence in young people for a long time.” Kurt looked at Mag’s back.

“I want to see what the whiskey he’s worried about not having an extra gold award to give to is like.” Fergus took that bottle of whiskey, pulled out the cork, and poured it into two glasses.

The liquor’s aroma spread out with a faint toasted scent and a rich smoky scent. The two of them picked up their glasses and frowned at the same time.

“Is this a failure?”

Fergus sized up the brownish red liquid in the glass.

He had only smelled smoke’s scent in those liquor that failed badly. That was a serious mistake that happened during the drying process.

His opinion of Mag was lowered a little. A good brewer would not have served a failed item to his customers.

Unless he wanted to pull a fast one on his customers with Maotai’s success.

Kurt’s initial thoughts were similar to those of Fergus, but he suddenly sensed something amiss when he wanted to put down the glass. He held the glass closer, and used his left hand to gently fan over it, making the aroma more intense.

“It’s not a failure. It’s its unique fragrance,” Kurt said to Fergus with surprise as his eyes lit up.

“Fragrance?”

“Yes! Sniff it carefully again. This smokey scent isn’t repulsive. Instead, after the initial discomfort, you will find it increasingly mesmerizing

“And after getting used to the smoky scent, you will discover the other scents hidden in it. Yes! It’s the fragrance of malt!” Kurt was surprised like a child who had discovered a huge secret.

Fergus picked up the glass again suspiciously, and sniffed it again like how Kurt did it.

After a while, his eyes widened with an expression of disbelief.

“Say no more. Let’s try it first.”

Kurt picked up the glass and slowly took a sip. He swirled it in his mouth with his tongue. When the whiskey’s fragrance filled his oral cavity, he savored the different fragrances at different parts carefully before swallowing.

The texture was dry, rich, full and smooth... The faint smokey taste brought along a mesmerizing texture.

Kurt put down the glass, nodded, and gravely said to Fergus, "It's good liquor."

Chapter 2100 They Don't Have Any Loyalty

Shock!

This was what Kurt and Fergus felt after tasting the whiskey.

This liquor that smelled like a failure initially had a shocking and mesmerizing taste hidden under that toasted and smokey smell.

It was like a wild man with a rugged exterior, yet with astonishing knowledge. He shared his knowledge slowly, making people unable to resist getting lost in it.

After a long time, the two of them put down their empty glasses at the same time. "If this was presented at the liquor-tasting event, how many points would you give it?" Fergus asked Kurt. "Without any doubt, 10 points," Kurt replied matter-of-factly.

"We should be glad that Mr. Hades brought Maotai, otherwise it wouldn't have looked good if we had contradicted ourselves on stage." Fergus chuckled.

"The young are to be feared. A genius has emerged in our Rodu city." Kurt couldn't help but praise Mag

"Not only does he brew great liquor, even his side dishes are so scrumptious." Fergus swallowed the pig ears salad before popping a few peanuts into his mouth.

The two of them were completely bowed over by Mag.

He wasn't being arrogant; instead, he had the strength to match his attitude.

The two of them drank the liquor with the delicious side dishes. Soon, they finished the whiskey and Maotai. Kurt pressed one hand against the table with narrowed eyes, and said, "Sh-should we or-order another two bottles?"

"Come... cheers..." Fergus mumbled his reply under the table.

Mag went out to get their coachmen and servants, and just carried them away.

Amy propped her chin on her hands as she watched them being carried away, and smilingly said, "See, I said they wouldn't need another bottle."

To this world, the 40 to 50% Maotai and whiskey were definitely hard liquor.

Those who boasted that they wouldn't get drunk no matter how much they drank were usually drinking ratafia and wine that didn't have much alcohol content. As long as their urinary systems could catch up, it wasn't strange that they wouldn't get drunk. There were many new customers at Saipan Tavern today. They, who hadn't tried hard liquor before, got drunk quickly.

Fortunately, those who could afford liquor that cost 2000 copper coins a bottle would have coachmen and servants whenever they go out. That saved Mag a lot of trouble.

It was very harmonious at Saipan Tavern.

However, Titan Tavern wasn't doing very well.

The reopened Titan Tavern had changed its drink list. It was only selling the 30 years old aged Titan Liquor that cost 3000 copper coins per bottle now.

The cheap and abundant Titan Liquor was removed, along with those cheap liquor brands that she sold on behalf of other taverns.

This meant giving up all of Titan Tavern's recent regular customers. She was rejecting them by setting a price that they couldn't afford.

This caused the displeasure of many regulars who came to drink. They congregated at the door, asking Effie for an explanation.

Effie came out and looked at the 10-odd regulars at the door. She bowed to them first before straightening, and said, "I'm sorry, gentlemen. Thank you for your support in all these years, but Titan Tavern has to upgrade itself. In order to carry on my father's will and make Titan Tavern the best tavern in Rodu, I have to set it back to its original position before moving it forward with all my might."

The customers all fell silent.

"Lady boss, are you not selling drinks to us anymore? 3000 copper coins is really too expensive. We can't afford it even if we don't drink for a month," a middle-aged man said with a bitter smile.

"Yes. Even 1000 copper coins a glass is too expensive," someone chimed in.

Effie looked at all of them, and pursed her lips. She almost couldn't bear it.

"This is the Titan Liquor that just got the gold award, personally brewed by Master Marcus back then and aged for 30 years in a cellar. "It's already very reasonable that the lady boss is willing to take it out and sell it for 3000 copper coins a bottle.

"If it was being sold in the five main taverns in Rodu now, don't even think of drinking a glass of it without 10,000 copper coins," a customer who just stepped out of the tavern said to those customers, slightly drunk. "You guys should feel gratified. After all, you are all respectable people who used to drink Titan Liquor daily."

After saying that, the man whistled, stumbled onto a horse-drawn carriage parked at the roadside, and left. All of them looked at one another after hearing that. They felt empty, and dispersed.

Effie watched the regular customers go away, and felt a sense of loss instantly.

A customer watching at the side consoled her, "Miss, don't think so much. Customers come and go. They don't have any loyalty. It's all because of the cheap price."

Effie regained her wits, and turned to look at the person who spoke up. She felt the middle-aged man in front of her looked a little familiar, and then her eyes lit up suddenly. "You are Mr. Pasaca."

"I didn't expect you to remember me." That middle-aged man was quite taken aback too.

“You came to drink at the tavern almost every day back then, and you always took the seat near the door. Besides drinking, your favorite side dish was the preserved radish strips my mother made.” Eiffie nodded with a smile. “You used to let me top up preserved radish strips back then, and you would tip me, so I remember you.”

Pasaca nodded, and lamented, “Yes, the preserved radish strips your mother made and the liquor your father brewed are my most treasured memories.

“I heard that you brought the 30-year-old Titan Liquor that your father kept in the cellar to the liquor tasting-event yesterday, and promised to supply a certain quantity of it every day, so I came to take a look.”

“Yes. Please come in. We have about 10 bottles left today,” Eiffie answered with a smile.

“You’ll have to keep a bottle for me, then.” Pasaca’s eyes lit up, and he followed her in. He saw an empty seat at the door and sat down.

Soon, Eiffie came over with a bottle of liquor and a plate of preserved radish strips, and placed them in front of Pasaca.

“Although the liquor I brewed isn’t as good as my dad’s, I learned how to make preserved radish strips from my mother,” Eiffie smilingly

said.

Pasaca picked up a golden preserved radish strip with the chopsticks and took a bite.

Crunch

The crunchy texture and the savory and sweet taste made Pasaca raise his eyebrows and reveal a joyful smile.

“I always felt that you resembled your mother. You even inherited her skills at making the preserved radish strips. It’s very delicious, and tastes just like before.” Pasaca put down his chopsticks, and gave Eiffie a thumbs-up.

“Thank you, please enjoy them.” Eiffie turned to walk away with a smile spreading on her face.

Yes. Customers come and go. Only the taste can make a customer loyal.

Even though over 10 years had passed, they would still come and check it out, searching for the taste in their memories as soon as they heard the news.

Eiffie suddenly knew what she had to do.

She should satisfy those customers who came enthusiastically.

This was what she should do.