

Strongest

Chapter 1121: Inferior Legendary Treasure Chest

Chapter 1121 – Inferior Legendary Treasure Chest

As Endless Scars slowly walked up to Shi Feng, she sized up the man carefully. Although she couldn't see Shi Feng's appearance due to the Black Cloak, curiosity filled her eyes.

Shi Feng similarly observed Endless Scars, one of God's Domain's legendary figures in the past.

The woman had clear, bright eyes, curved eyebrows, and thick eyelashes. A hint of pink colored her pristine, white jade skin. Her thin, soft lips were as mesmerizing as a ruby. As she revealed a hint of a smile, she could captivate any player. Shi Feng had to admit that even Gentle Snow, who everyone called a Goddess, fell short compared to Endless Scars.

"Guild Leader, that beauty seems interested in you," Blackie said, snickering softly.

Instead of responding, Shi Feng rolled his eyes.

Although others might strive for a beauty like Endless Scars' attention, Shi Feng knew how costly it was.

He knew all too well what kind of person Endless Scars was.

Although she wore an interested expression, looking like a little girl who had just found a new toy, her thoughts were as pure as everyone assumed. It was no different than her attitude towards Breeze Wine.

"If Miss Endless wants to ask why we changed our plans so abruptly, I believe you have already figured that out after seeing those five Special Lifeforms. It's not that we want to back out of our transaction; we're just powerless to help. If Miss Endless doesn't have any other matters to discuss, we will take our leave." Shi Feng took the initiative to bid the woman farewell.

Although he did not know what lay inside the Fallen Ark that could tempt the Midnight Tea Party, he no longer wanted to associate with the adventurer team.

"Please, wait. I wish to represent the Midnight Tea Party in thanking you. If not for your command to flee, we would be dead by now. Here are 1,000 Magic Crystals. Take them as a thank you gift, and let's part as friends," Endless Scars said. She then retrieved a gray gemstone bag and handed it to Shi Feng.

Every Midnight Tea Party member was stunned.

What was going on here?

Not only hadn't Endless Scars questioned Shi Feng's intentions, but she also gave him 1,000 Magic Crystals as a sign of gratitude. She was insane!

“This beautiful big sister is simply too rich!” When Violet Cloud saw the cloth bag of 1,000 Magic Crystals, even she wanted to volunteer to become Endless Scars’s little sister.

Even large Guilds would hesitate before giving away 1,000 Magic Crystals, yet Endless Scars did so without blinking.

Although Shi Feng wanted to say something, Endless Scars quickly followed up by saying softly, “Although our transaction has failed, I’d like to conduct another trade. We’ll enter the Fallen Ark together and split the items thirty-seventy. How about it?”

Endless Scars’s offer shocked every player present.

“Miss Endless, you saw the monsters guarding the entrance. At this stage of the game, we have no chance against them.” Shi Feng could not understand what was going through Endless Scars’s mind. Those five Special Lifeforms were no laughing matter. Even he was not confident in taking them down.

Special Lifeforms were extremely rare in God’s Domain. They were weapons the Gods had specifically crafted for war. Like puppets, they possessed eternal life. They also had the power of immortality.

Even if players killed them, they would resurrect. Moreover, they would revive slightly stronger than before. Generally, it only took these Special Lifeforms ten minutes to resurrect, with some of the more powerful monsters taking up to an hour or so. In addition, these monsters did not drop any loot. Hence, players usually kept their distance. One had to admit that these Special Lifeforms were excellent guardians.

“What if I tell you that there’s an Inferior Legendary Treasure Chest inside?” Endless Scars asked when she saw Shi Feng’s lack of interest. Smiling faintly, she continued, “Based on what I’ve uncovered, there should be more than one Inferior Legendary Treasure Chest inside. In addition, there are plenty of Epic Treasure Chests. My map can lead us to these Treasure Chests and allow us to bypass the traps. Are you sure you’re not interested?”

The Fallen Ark had been one of the final weapons in the Great Ancient War. The items inside had been left behind by the Gods before they had died. NPCs would consider even the most ordinary item a treasure, let alone players.

“You have a map?” Shi Feng stared at Endless Scars, flabbergasted.

He would be lying if he said he wasn’t interested in the Fallen Ark.

However, obtaining these treasures wasn’t that easy. To current players, triggering any of the traps inside would result in death. Hence, even after clearing out the monsters in the Fallen Ark, very few players had been willing to explore it in the past.

In fact, after the abyssal monsters had been cleared out, a large number of players and Guilds had rushed into the Fallen Ark. In the end, however, only a few had escaped with their lives. Practically 99.9% of the players that entered the Ark had died in the outer region. Even if one managed to reach the Ark’s inner region, they would have to deal with even more powerful traps. As a result, very few were capable of leaving the Ark with any of its treasures. Players had come to both love and despise the Fallen Ark.

However, it would be a different story if they had a map.

Aside from the awakened abyssal monsters and a few Special Lifeforms, the Fallen Ark was void of life. The traps would be their main problem after entering the Ark. A map of the Ark's various traps was the equivalent of a free pass to its treasures. As long as they were careful to avoid the abyssal monsters and Special Lifeforms, they could obtain the Ark's treasures unhindered.

Shi Feng finally understood Breeze Wine and Endless Scars's attraction to the Fallen Ark and why they'd be willing to spend 4,000 Magic Crystals to hire his team for an hour.

"That's right. If you don't believe me, take a look. Although it is only a fragment, can lead us to the Fallen Ark's inner region," Endless Scars said. She then took out a broken map with only two-fifths of the original and showed it to Shi Feng. The item's name was Fallen Ark Map. However, if Shi Feng wished to look at it in detail, he needed the owner's permission.

"I can help you get inside. However, I have a condition." After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng eventually chose to take the risk.

In the past, even the most inferior item players secured from the Fallen Ark's inner area was an Epic item. If one were lucky, they could even obtain a Fragmented Legendary item.

A Fragmented Legendary item!

With one such item, a player's combat power would skyrocket. If he could obtain one, the item would greatly enhance his chances of success both in the Dark Arena and in the contest for Thunder Island.

As for the abyssal monsters that would be released, they would mostly roam the Crying Ghost Ridge's inner regions. His team could still grind Trolls in the outer region. The only drawback was a slightly lower drop-rate for Green Ebony.

Endless Scars had only wanted to test Shi Feng with her offer. However, upon hearing Shi Feng's confident reply, a small glimmer of hope shown in her flawless eyes.

"As long as your conditions aren't too outrageous, I can agree to them on behalf of our team leader," Endless Scars straightforwardly replied, smiling faintly. It was as if she had long since guessed Shi Feng's thoughts.

Pointing at the map in Endless Scars's hand, Shi Feng said in a non-negotiable tone, "Give me a copy of the Fallen Ark Map. Once we're inside, we'll go our separate ways and agree to a non-aggression pact. What we each walk away with will depend on our abilities."

Chapter 1122: Foundation Magic Array

Chapter 1122 – Foundation Magic Array

Endless Scars's conversation with Shi Feng had been private. The other players hadn't heard their discussion.

However, when the Midnight Tea Party members saw Endless Scars's frown, they were shocked.

Endless Scars had never revealed such an expression throughout her time on the team. Even when monsters nearly wiped their team out, nothing close to a frown had appeared on her face.

“Propose another. Our team cannot agree to that condition,” Endless Scars said after giving the matter some thought. Looking straight at Shi Feng, she said seriously, “The map itself is a pass to the Fallen Ark. If you have it, you can enter the Ark more than once. This will undoubtedly increase our competition over the Ark’s treasure. With how important the Fallen Ark is, I believe that no sane person would agree to your proposal. Moreover, even if our adventurer team can’t enter the Fallen Ark right now, we can simply return when we’re strong enough. In any case, the key is ours. If we don’t activate the Ark, no one will be able to enter it.”

“What you’re saying is true. However, you don’t seem to know the Fallen Ark’s true secret,” Shi Feng said, chuckling. He had long since guessed Endless Scars’s reply.

The Fallen Ark Map was priceless. Naturally, he didn’t expect the Midnight Tea Party to just make a copy for him. However, the adventurer team’s understanding of the Fallen Ark was no match for his.

“What are you trying to say?” Although Endless Scars had her suspicions, after hearing Shi Feng’s confident comments, she was even more certain that Shi Feng knew plenty of information about the Fallen Ark.

“Well, it doesn’t really matter even if I tell you this. Although you have the key and the map, it is still impossible to obtain the items inside the Fallen Ark,” Shi Feng explained as he pointed to where the five Special Lifeforms had disappeared. “You’ve seen for yourselves how powerful those guards are. However, the monsters inside are even more formidable. If you open the Ark, those monsters will escape. Moreover, those monsters will, slowly but surely, grow stronger. If you don’t deal with them properly, even the map won’t help you. Meanwhile, I have a way to deal with those monsters.

“If we work together, we can reach the Ark’s inner region quickly. Even if you don’t want to cooperate with us, once you open the Ark, we can still go in ourselves. Once the Ark is open, it won’t ever close. Anyone will be able to enter.”

Endless Scars hesitated after listening to Shi Feng’s explanation.

Although she wasn’t sure if Shi Feng were telling the truth, if he was, then her side had no way of dealing with those monsters. Their map might as well be a blank piece of paper. On the other hand, Shi Feng had a way of combating this problem. Once Shi Feng’s team entered the Ark, although their progress would be slow without the map, the Midnight Tea Party would suffer a massive loss if they came across any treasure.

Most importantly, her team did not have a lot of time. After all, their quest had a time limit. Based on her estimates, even if they focused on grinding and completing their class promotions, the furthest they could reach was Tier 2, Level 55 before the quest’s time limit was up. At that tier and level, their team

might have a chance of defeating the five entrance guards. Unfortunately, she was not certain that they could deal with the Ark's monsters, which Shi Feng claimed were far stronger.

She had to admit that Shi Feng's knowledge on those monsters was invaluable.

"Alright, I'll agree to your conditions. However, you need to tell me what you know about those monsters. You also have to tell me how to deal with them. If what you say is true, I'll make a copy of the map once we're in the Ark. If you lie to me, you won't get anything." Endless Scars glared at Shi Feng. This was the first time she hadn't had the upper hand in a negotiation since she had joined God's Domain. She was even more frustrated that she still didn't know Shi Feng and his team members' identities.

"That won't be a problem. Once you see for yourself, you'll know the truth," Shi Feng laughed.

After the various Super Guilds' army had suffered annihilation, Crying Ghost Ridge had become a forbidden land for players in the past. Even then, however, many players had sought the Fallen Ark's treasure. To deal with the incomparably powerful abyssal monsters, these players had formed a multitude of plans. Unfortunately, none of those plans had succeeded. The most ridiculous part was that players had only discovered a proper method of dealing with the monsters after they had been defeated.

That method involved utilizing Mana Stones!

Due to the special Mana phenomenon inside the Fallen Ark, the slumbering abyssal monsters couldn't absorb Mana to recover. However, once the Fallen Ark was unlocked, this Mana disturbance would vanish. To recover their strength, these abyssal monsters urgently needed large amounts of Mana. Ordinary Magic Crystals would not do. To those ancient abyssal monsters, Mana of such quality did little to aid in their recovery. Only Mana Stones were suitable.

When the time came, he simply needed to construct a Foundation Magic Array to display the Mana Stones. The Mana Stones would lure the abyssal monsters, and once they left, these abyssal monsters wouldn't be able to return to the Ark for a short time. Their teams could then search the Ark relatively safely.

Following which, Shi Feng and Endless Scars signed a contract. After ensuring that there were no issues, Shi Feng had Violet Cloud use Basic Soul Return on Breeze Wine. This way, Breeze Wine would not lose a level, and his combat power would be unaffected.

"Wait here for now. I still need to prepare," Shi Feng said before entering the dead forest by himself and setting up a teleportation point with the Abyss Pendant. He then used a Return Scroll and teleported to White River City.

As soon as Shi Feng returned to White River City, he passed the Green Ebony he had obtained to Melancholic Smile. Although they only had enough for one Advanced Transport Carriage, it took a considerable amount of time to manufacture one. Even if they had a Master Engineer and a Master Forger, they would need close to a day. Hence, the sooner they began production, the better.

Inside one of the Candlelight Trading Firm's Special Forging Room, Shi Feng retrieved the Philosopher's Stone, which he had picked up from his Private Warehouse on his way back, and began to synthesize Magic Crystals into Mana Stones.

He could synthesize one Mana Stone from 50 Magic Crystals. Without hesitation, he used all 1,000 Magic Crystals he had obtained from Endless Scars and ended up with 20 Mana Stones. That was enough to lure the abyssal monsters from the Ark twice.

Following which, Shi Feng made nine Magic Array Scrolls for the Nine-star Polar Domain. Once those were complete, he used the Abyss Pendant to return to Crying Ghost Ridge.

Upon returning to the Ridge, Shi Feng used ten Mana Stones to set up a Foundation Magic Array far from the canyon where the Fallen Ark resided. With this Foundation Magic Array, he could lure all the abyssal monsters from inside the Ark.

After finishing that task, Shi Feng returned to his team.

"You've finished your tasks already?" Endless Scars asked Shi Feng with a suspicious tone.

Only one hour or so had passed since Shi Feng had left. That wasn't even enough time to make a round-trip to a town or city.

What could he possibly do in one hour?

Originally, she had thought that Shi Feng had left to gather reinforcements. After all, with their current strength, defeating the five guardian monsters was impossible. At the very least, they needed a team of 100 experts.

Yet, Shi Feng hadn't brought even one player back with him...

"Endless, is this brat toying with us?!" Dark War asked through the team chat, infuriated.

After Shi Feng left, Endless Scars had told her team everything about her agreement with Shi Feng.

They all thought that Shi Feng's demands were outrageous. They also thought that Shi Feng was lying about how powerful the monsters inside the Ark were and that he simply wanted to trick them for their map. Shi Feng's speedy return only justified their assumptions.

Before Endless Scars could reply, however, Shi Feng beat her to it and said, "I've completed my preparations. However, during the battle, everyone needs to follow my commands."

Chapter 1123: Monsters' Domain

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"You'll take command?"

The Midnight Tea Party members shot Shi Feng scornful looks.

To ordinary players, a team commander's role was not particularly important. Ordinary players wouldn't have any choice in the matter if an expert like Shi Feng wanted to guide them.

However, they weren't ordinary players.

Moreover, even the slightest mistake could result in death in the upcoming battle. If they died and lost the fight, they would've wasted several days of effort. If they were not absolutely confident in their commander, how could apex experts risk listening to him? Having only met him recently, Shi Feng was just a stranger.

They could let Shi Feng's request for the Fallen Ark Map slide. However, if he thought that they would listen to his commands, he was simply dreaming!

Breeze Wine nodded in agreement with his teammates' responses. He didn't think that it would be suitable for Shi Feng to take command of the Midnight Tea Party, either. However, this was not because he looked down on Shi Feng's abilities. Rather, for one to qualify as a commander, one needed to familiarize themselves with every player on the team. This included their various Basic Attributes, Skills, habits, and many other details. Only by knowing this information could one effectively lead and allow the everyone in the team to display their fullest potential.

Shi Feng knew nothing about the Midnight Tea Party members. Although it wouldn't be a major issue if they were raiding a simple Dungeon or Boss monster, they intended to take on a Level 65 Grand Lord and four Level 63 Great Lords. Any mistakes would definitely result in casualties.

"It's fine if you don't want me in command. I'll just tell you our raid strategy. When the time comes, work with us," Shi Feng said, not minding the hostile looks he received. "Only, I will not be responsible for any casualties."

Five Special Lifeforms working together was no laughing matter.

Based on Shi Feng's understanding, every one of those five Special Lifeforms possessed their own ultimate moves. Alone, those ultimate moves might not be that powerful, but combined, their might increased exponentially. If those five Special Lifeforms cooperated with each other, they could annihilate a team of apex experts effortlessly. Players needed an accurate grasp on the timing of the Bosses' Skills. Even a slight error could result in a team-wipe. Hence, he had asked to take command.

"That won't be a problem," Breeze Wine confidently replied. "If a team-wipe occurs due to a mistake on our side, we'll compensate you correspondingly."

The rest of the team members agreed with the arrangement as well. At the very least, this was far better than taking orders from a stranger.

Following which, Shi Feng began to assign tasks.

In reality, there was very little the Midnight Tea Party needed to do. As Breeze Wine had assumed, Shi Feng was not very familiar with the Midnight Tea Party's members. Thus, he hadn't assigned them any particularly important tasks. The adventurer team mainly had to supply nine magical classes to maintain the Nine-star Polar Domain Magic Array. Shi Feng told the other nine players to distract two of the

Fallen Patrols. They did not even need to focus on damaging the Great Lords. As for Breeze Wine, he had to unlock the Ark, of course.

Zero Wing would deal with the Fallen Garrison Captain and the remaining two Fallen Patrols.

After Shi Feng finished assigning tasks, both teams began to inspect their weapons, equipment, potions, and scrolls.

“Later, while leader is maintaining the magic array, I’ll take over command. You guys better not embarrass our team,” Endless Scars said seriously as she glanced at her teammates.

“Endless, rest assured. You know our standards better than anyone else. When the time comes, even if their side is annihilated, we won’t have any issues,” the Ranger, Dark War, sneered as he shot a glare at Shi Feng’s team.

Facing two Level 63 Great Lords might be a problem for ordinary experts. To their adventurer team, however, it was simply a somewhat strenuous task. Moreover, they only had to serve as distractions. They were not even required to fight the two Bosses head-on.

On the other hand, Shi Feng’s side, which needed to confront a Grand Lord and two Great Lords directly, was the largest concern.

After everyone confirmed that there were no issues, Shi Feng signaled Breeze Wine with a wave of his hand, having the latter start the unlocking process.

Seeing this, Breeze Wine raised the orange crystal above his head and began to chant once more.

Following which, the canyon shook as five massive figures rose from the ground. They were none other than the Fallen Garrison Captain and the four Fallen Patrols.

“Activate the magic array!” Shi Feng hurriedly shouted.

Endless Scars gave the same command practically at the same time.

Suddenly, a massive, purple-gold magic array appeared and enveloped the five Boss monsters.

As an Intermediate Magic Array, the Nine-star Polar Domain could even suppress Mythic monsters. Naturally, the Garrison Captain and Patrols were no exception. Immediately, the five Bosses’ Attributes began to fall rapidly.

“How is this Intermediate Magic Array so powerful?!”

The Midnight Tea Party was momentarily stunned.

In the blink of an eye, the Fallen Garrison Captain’s HP fell from 120,000,000 to 96,000,000, whereas the Fallen Patrols’ HPs fell from 57,000,000 to 41,000,000. The magic array’s effects even stunned Endless Scars.

While they, the Midnight Tea Party, had seen Intermediate Magic Arrays before and had even collected a complete set themselves, that Intermediate Magic Array was only capable of reducing a Grand Lord’s Basic Attributes by 10%. Even then, it was already considerably powerful for an Intermediate Magic Array.

Yet, the Nine-star Polar Domain had weakened the Fallen Garrison Captain by 20% and the Fallen Patrols by 30%. This was simply inconceivable.

Of course, Shi Feng's team didn't even stop to notice the Midnight Tea Party members' reactions.

"Go!"

Under Shi Feng's command, Cola, Ye Wumian, and Turtledove charged at own targets.

As the lead MT, Cola would deal with the Grand Lord, while Turtledove and Ye Wumian would each tank the two Great Lords.

Special Lifeforms' Life Rating was slightly higher than ordinary monsters, though they were undoubtedly inferior to Archaic Species. With their Attributes suppressed, Cola and the others should be able to handle them.

However, before Cola could reach the Fallen Garrison Captain, the latter swung its massive, ten-meter-long greatsword at the ground.

Boom!

A massive fissure ripped through the ground, extending straight towards Cola.

"Cola! Activate Protection Blessing!" Shi Feng shouted upon seeing the attack.

Cola activated Protection Blessing without hesitation. He then positioned his shield before his body and gripped it with both hands.

Peng!

Cola was thrown ten yards away on the spot. The Truth Shield and Protection on him shattered into oblivion. Meanwhile, Cola's HP fell by over 25,000. The Troll Chieftain's ultimate move paled tremendously in comparison to the Fallen Garrison Captain's attack.

The fissure only stopped after 50 yards. The Garrison Captain's attack range made everyone shudder.

Had Cola not activated Protection Blessing in time, he would be dead.

The Garrison Captain's attack stunned every player in the battle. Unfortunately, this wasn't the end. In the next moment, the four Fallen Patrols moved simultaneously, abruptly raising their battle axes and slamming them to the ground violently.

Boom... Boom... Boom...

The ground began to tremble. Golden jets began to spray from the ground in a 30-yard radius around the four Fallen Patrols. When the four Domains were superimposed over each other, it was practically impossible to avoid them. Meanwhile, any player that these jets struck would receive anywhere from -5,000 to -8,000 damage.

These golden jets appeared without any signs or fixed patterns. The overlapping Domains doubled the attacks' density.

Although they tried their best to dodge the attacks, players occasionally slipped up and got hit, their HPs decreasing rapidly. One Level 41 from the Midnight Tea Party, unfortunately, got caught in two overlapping Domains. Without any time to respond, numerous jets struck the Berserker, and he died on the spot.

Chapter 1124: Tier 4 Super Spell

Chapter 1124 – Tier 4 Super Spell

“Everyone, avoid the overlapping Domains!”

“What kind of Skill is that?! Why is it still going on even after so long?!”

...

The battle had just begun, yet one person had already died. Both Shi Feng’s team and the Midnight Tea Party grew anxious.

Everyone had seen how the Berserker had died.

The golden jets appeared suddenly and silently. Moreover, the attacks could not be blocked, only dodged. Even if they were only near one Domain, they would have to dodge three to five jets. Near two overlapping Domains, one would face seven to ten attacks simultaneously. The Berserker’s paths of retreat had been cut off. In the end, he had died before the team’s healers could help him.

The Midnight Tea Party members no longer wore their previous complacent expressions.

“Lure the Patrols to four corners! Do not let them near the Garrison Captain!” Shi Feng commanded.

Shi Feng was not particularly familiar with the guardian Bosses’ Skills. After all, he had only learned about the Fallen Ark after it had been activated in the past. He did not even know who had activated the Ark.

All he knew was that these Special Lifeforms had their own ultimate moves and that those ultimate moves would become exponentially stronger when combined. However, he hadn’t expected these ultimate moves to be Domain Skills.

Among the various Skills in God’s Domain, those that posed the greatest danger were none other than large-scale destruction Spells and Domain Skills. Attacks from large-scale destruction Spells usually only lasted one or several waves. If players could endure the Spell’s duration, they would live. However, Domain Skills could stay in effect much longer. Domain Skill would gradually whittle players down until they died.

Endless Scars now realized how severe the situation was. Immediately, she took a Tier 3 Summoning Scroll from her bag and shouted through the team chat, "Wave, use your Summoning Scroll with mine! We'll use them to lure away the Patrols! Melee players, stay away from the Bosses! Use only ranged attacks!"

After all was said and done, the Midnight Tea Party's members were still experts. Very quickly, they began to move. The team's melee players promptly distanced themselves from the Fallen Patrols' Domains. Meanwhile, Endless Scars and Netherworld Wave each summoned a Tier 3 creature and instructed them to pounce on the Fallen Patrols.

Both Endless Scars and Netherworld Wave were incredibly proficient with controlling their summoned creatures. Although they couldn't dodge all of the golden jets, they could dodge the majority of them. With relative ease, the summoned creatures arrived before the Fallen Patrols and swiped their claws at the enemies.

Peng!

When the Tier 3 summoned creatures' claws struck the stationery Fallen Patrols, the clang of metal rang out. The summoned creatures' claws had only scratched the Patrols' armor. They did not even manage to push the Patrols back despite both being at the Great Lord rank. The Fallen Patrols had only lost around 4,000 HP from the attacks...

"Why are their Defenses so high?!"

"Even a Grand Lord doesn't have this much Defense!"

When the Midnight Tea Party's members saw the damage the Tier 3, Level 60 summoned creatures had dealt with their normal attacks, their expressions grew gloomy.

When they had used Tier 3 summoned creatures to fight Tier 3 Great Lords in the past, the former's normal attacks usually dealt twenty to thirty thousand damage. Even against Grand Lords, their attacks dealt nearly -8,000 points, yet against these Bosses, their summoned creatures had only dealt around -4,000 damage.

The Fallen Patrols' Defense was ridiculous.

If even a Tier 3 summoned creature dealt so little damage, then players like themselves would deal, at most, -1,500 damage to the Fallen Patrols.

Meanwhile, the Fallen Patrols each had 41,000,000 HP. With their battle recovery, they could regenerate over 410,000 HP every five seconds. In other words, they would recover 82,000 HP every second.

If their damage couldn't exceed 82,000 every second, then the Fallen Patrols were invincible against them.

"Big Sis Endless, how are we supposed to fight these things?" Cloud Yarn asked anxiously. She could not help but turn to the Grand Lord Shi Feng's team fought.

If the Fallen Patrols were already so difficult to deal with, wouldn't the Fallen Garrison Captain be even more overbearing?

“Forget about that for now! Lure the Bosses away!” Endless Scars ordered, shaking her head as she also glanced at Shi Feng’s team.

The five Guardian Bosses were far more powerful than she had thought. Initially, she had believed that the Midnight Tea Party could deal with these monsters after they reached Tier 2, Level 55. Now, however, it would seem that even after reaching that level, they had less than a 40% chance of beating these monsters.

After the Midnight Tea Party lured two of the Fallen Patrols away, Turtledove and Ye Wumian activated their Lifesaving Skills and began to lure their Patrols away from the Fallen Garrison Captain.

Once the four Patrols were in four separate corners, Cola, who stood in the middle, had a much easier time dealing with the Garrison Captain. However, even after activating Protection Blessing, he still took over -10,000 damage from one of the Grand Lord’s normal attacks. Without Protection Blessing, a single attack would devour over 20,000 of Cola’s HP....

Cola couldn’t imagine standing against the Garrison Captain without the Nine-star Polar Domain.

Moreover, when everyone’s attacks struck the Garrison Captain, every one of them dealt less than -1,000 damage. Only Fire Dance and Gentle Snow’s normal attacks could deal over -1,500 damage to the Grand Lord, while their Skills dealt up to -5,000 damage. However, to the Garrison Captain, which had 96,000,000 HP, that damage was negligible.

“Guild Leader, we won’t even scratch its HP at this rate. Sooner or later, it will wear us down. Why don’t we retreat and have the Guild’s main force meet us here?” Gentle Snow advised through the team chat.

Facing a Great Lord with a 20-man team was already pushing their luck, not to mention a Grand Lord that was twenty levels above them. If not for their excellent weapons and equipment and their exceptionally high combat standards, they would have team-wiped with the first wave of attacks.

“No need. Cola, keep hold of the Boss! Three seconds is long enough!”

The current situation didn’t surprise Shi Feng overmuch. He was fully aware of how powerful Special Lifeforms functioned. They were only inferior to Archaic Species. Knowing this, he had prepared a method to deal with them.

In the next moment, Shi Feng took a blood-red Magic Scroll from his bag. The instant the Magic Scroll appeared, a powerful Mana fluctuation occurred within the Nine-star Polar Domain.

Everyone’s gazes instantly shifted to Shi Feng.

“What is that Magic Scroll?” Endless Scars muttered, shocked, when she noticed the rampant Mana inside the barrier.

This Magic Scroll was one of the two Tier 4 Magic Scrolls Shi Feng had obtained from killing the Awakened NPC, Lancelot.

Meanwhile, the Garrison Captain noticed the Mana fluctuations immediately, the Grand Lord’s eyes similarly shifting towards the blood-red scroll in Shi Feng’s hands. It shifted to attack the Swordsman.

“Don’t even think about getting away from me that easily!”

Cola raised his shield and slammed it into the Garrison Captain's foot. He then activated the Tier 1 Skill Justice Roar, his body releasing a dazzling golden glow. He instantly regained the Boss's attention and aggro. At the same time, his Strength would double if the Boss didn't attack him.

However, even after Cola activated Justice Roar, the Garrison Captain was still focused on Shi Feng.

"Guild Leader, what did you just take out?!" Cola could not help his surprise.

With no other choice, Cola activated Power of Darkness, his Attributes soaring once more. He then executed the Tier 1 Skill, Righteous Punishment.

Boom!

With a single strike, he forced the Garrison Captain's right foot back, causing over -10,000 damage to appear above the Grand Lord's head. The attack had nearly forced the Garrison Captain to kneel.

Yet, the Fallen Garrison Captain did not return its attention to Cola. Rather, it advanced on Shi Feng, one step after another.

Seeing this, Cola continued to execute several powerful moves, every one dealing over -10,000 damage, yet the result did not change.

"Guild Leader, this monster has gone nuts!" Cola was dumbfounded.

As the Garrison Captain arrived before Shi Feng, before it slashed its greatsword down on Shi Feng, Shi Feng finally finished chanting the Magic Scroll's incantation.

"Disillusionment!"

Shi Feng's eyes flew open. Two extremely complex and refined, blood-red magic arrays then emerged from his eyes. The other players were astonished.

Tier 4 Super Spell, Disillusioned Space!

Chapter 1125: Unexpected Evolution

Chapter 1125 – Unexpected Evolution

The instant the Magic Scroll activated, it seemed as if space had frozen as the Garrison Captain's descending greatsword came to an abrupt halt. Immediately after, the space within the Nine-star Polar Domain began to change, a blood-red color coating the surrounding scenery.

"What's going on? Why does my body feel so light?"

"Wait, our Basic Attributes have risen!"

"It's true! My Basic Attributes have increased by 100%!"

"Guys, look! The Boss seems to have slowed to a crawl!"

...

As everyone looked at the Garrison Captain's greatsword again, they found that they could see the weapon clearly; before, they had only seen afterimages.

As the greatsword descended, the earth shattered. Over 30-meter-long fissures broke through the ground.

However, the Garrison Captain had only hit the afterimage Shi Feng had left behind. The Swordsman himself had long since moved ten yards away.

So fast! When did he start moving? Endless Scars was flabbergasted.

Unlike the rest of the players, she had focused on Shi Feng. However, during the brief moment when she glanced at the Garrison Captain's greatsword, which had suddenly and significantly slowed, Shi Feng had moved ten yards away. She found the matter unbelievable.

"Look! Those Patrols have slowed down as well! Even the golden jets are slower!"

"With this speed, even I can dodge them easily."

The players finally noticed that Fallen Garrison Captain hadn't been the only one whose speed had been affected. The Fallen Patrols in the four corners had also suffered a speed reduction. Even their Domain Skills were affected. Zero Wing's members and the Midnight Tea Party could now dodge the golden jets easily.

"Just who is he?"

The Midnight Tea Party members couldn't help but glance at Shi Feng. They usually boasted their vast understand of God's Domain. However, even with their bountiful knowledge and experiences, they had never encountered a situation like this. Without a doubt, this phenomenon had something to do with Shi Feng's blood-red Magic Scroll. There was no other way to explain it.

Now that everyone's Basic Attributes had been boosted while the five Bosses' reaction speeds and Attack Speeds had decreased, the Midnight Tea Party's members, who had previously begun to despair, brimmed with hope.

Currently, the five Bosses had only landed one out of three or four attacks against their respective MTs. However, due to the significant Attribute increase, the Bosses' damage had decreased. Take the Fallen Garrison Captain Cola tanked for example. Originally, Cola withstood over -20,000 damage from the Grand Lord's normal attacks. Now, however, the Grand Lord's normal attacks only dealt around -13,000 to the Guardian Knight. In addition, due to Cola having activated Power of Darkness, his HP had risen to more than 56,000. Including Disillusioned Space's effects, his HP had risen to more than 112,000. He was practically a humanoid monster at this point.

Right now, Cola wouldn't even have issues tanking three Fallen Garrison Captains, much less one. As for Cola's damage, due to the Strength bonus from Justice Roar, just his normal attacks dealt nearly -10,000 damage, while his Skills dealt close to -30,000 damage.

Meanwhile, Violet Cloud, who stood among the healers at the rear, had similarly grown more powerful. Every one of her heals restored over 10,000 HP to Cola. If she double-cast her Spells, she could heal over 20,000 HP every time. If she were lucky and triggered a double-critical, she could instantly heal over 40,000 HP. Not only was Violet Cloud capable of keeping Cola alive by herself, but she could also handle healing Turtledove and Ye Wumian.

"Guild Leader, what kind of Magic Scroll did you use?! I feel like we can even deal with a Mythic monster right now!" Cola exclaimed through the team chat.

The rest of the team nodded in agreement.

Aside from their frightening damage, the most troublesome aspect about Boss monsters were their Attack Speeds and reaction speeds. Now that the Fallen Garrison Captain had been suppressed in all three aspects, it was only as difficult as a High Lord; it only dealt slightly more damage. However, their increased Attributes made up for that, further decreasing the raid's difficulty. Right now, they felt like they were simply fighting a powerful Lord.

"Alright, enough idling around. Use your Berserk Skills and throw everything you've got. We only have 15 minutes until this space disappears!" Shi Feng felt a sting in his chest.

Lancelot had only dropped two Tier 4 Magic Scrolls.

He had just used the more precious of the two, the Tier 4 Super Spell Disillusioned Space. Unlike Tier 4 Curses, Super Spells had been created during ancient times. They were ridiculously powerful, capable of transforming the environment. They were many times more powerful and mystical than the Spells of the current era. Even the current NPCs in God's Domain couldn't analyze these Spells. Thus, they were called Super Spells.

After activating Disillusioned Space, it would transform the area within 200 yards of the caster into a custom world. All enemies within this world would be suppressed, decreasing their Movement Speed, Attack Speed, and reaction speed by two-thirds of their totals. At the same time, this world would also enhance the caster and his allies, decreasing the Bosses' difficulty by one tier.

Take the Fallen Garrison Captain for example. It had originally been a Tier 3, Upper-rank existence. Now that its raid difficulty had reduced, it was only as strong as a Tier 2, Upper-rank. Unfortunately, Disillusioned Space's duration was considerably short. Even so, in the past, everyone had called it the rarest Magic Scroll in God's Domain, second to none.

In the past, a Tier 4 Super Magic Scroll had been worth at least three Epic items. If a team of Tier 2 players used the scroll, they could even kill Tier 4 Mythic monsters.

However, Shi Feng couldn't care less right now. The Garrison Captain and Patrols were far stronger than he had imagined. If he hadn't used the Magic Scroll, they would have undoubtedly team-wiped. Moreover, trading a Tier 4 Super Magic Scroll for a map to the Fallen Ark was a sure-profit transaction.

...

Upon hearing Shi Feng's warning, everyone promptly began to activate their Berserk Skills.

Although the Fallen Garrison Captain and Fallen Patrols still possessed very high HPs, their reduced speed made them living targets. After activating their Berserk Skills, everyone easily dealt over -10,000 damage with their attacks, while Fire Dance and Gentle Snow could deal over -20,000 damage.

Shi Feng didn't hold back either as he activated Power of Darkness. He then used Silent Steps and appeared behind the Garrison Captain before activating Phantom Kill. Both he and his doppelganger activated Flame Burst simultaneously.

Miniature suns appeared on both Shi Feng's and his doppelganger's swords. Every strike they landed on the Garrison Captain dealt over -60,000 damage, while critical hits dealt over -130,000 damage.

By the time Shi Feng and his doppelganger dropped to the ground, both had landed a total of thirty consecutive attacks. The Fallen Garrison Captain lost over two million HP on the spot. The damages that appeared above the Grand Lord's head stupefied everyone. With such high damage, Shi Feng could instantly kill a Chieftain of the same level.

Time passed quickly. Under the players' crazed bombardment, it took roughly six minutes for the Garrison Captain's 96,000,000 HP to hit zero.

Boom!

When the Fallen Garrison Captain collapsed, although it did not drop any loot, Gentle Snow, Alluring Summer, and the other members of Zero Wing rose from Level 42 to Level 43. The abundant EXP exceeded everyone's expectations. The Midnight Tea Party's members also leveled up from 41 to Level 42.

However, no one stopped to celebrate as they still had to deal with four Fallen Patrols. They had less than ten minutes left before Disillusioned Space's duration ran out. If they could not kill these Bosses within this period, it would be much harder to do so afterward.

Moreover, Shi Feng had already told everyone that Special Lifeforms were immortal existences. Until they opened the Fallen Ark's entrance, these Special Lifeforms would continue to resurrect. Moreover, Special Lifeforms generally revived in around ten minutes. They couldn't afford to waste any time.

However, the Fallen Patrols were much easier to deal with than the Fallen Garrison Captain. Even without their Berserk Skills, the two teams could deal a lot of damage to these Bosses. In addition, they still had the support of the Midnight Tea Party's two Tier 3 summoned creatures.

Finally, fourteen minutes since Disillusioned Space had been activated, the four Fallen Patrols collapsed, transforming into piles of rubble and gifting a large amount of EXP. The Midnight Tea Party members even leveled up once more, reaching Level 43. This leveling speed astonished these players. They had actually gained nearly two full levels' EXP in just fifteen minutes...

Zero Wing's members were already high-leveled. Although they had also obtained plenty of EXP, it was not enough to reach the next level. However, the abundant EXP had helped Shi Feng reach 82% of Level 47. If he grinded Trolls, he could reach Level 48 in only half a day.

As the Guardian Bosses died, the canyon began to tremble violently.

Suddenly, the canyon's center collapsed. A towering, aqua-blue temple then emerged from the ground.

At the same time, the familiar sound of a system notification reached everyone's ears.

God's Domain System Announcement: Players have successfully activated a new expansion pack in God's Domain. The System will undergo an upgrade. All players, please prepare to log out of the game.

Chapter 1126: Revealing Identity

Chapter 1126 – Revealing Identity

The notification about God's Domain's system update echoed in every player's ears. The notification immediately earned various reactions.

"Who's the bastard that triggered a new expansion pack?!"

"I'm only halfway through a Dungeon here!"

"Crap! I just bought a helmet and joined God's Domain!"

...

Many players began voicing their dissent on the official forums. However, although many people were outraged about this update, even more people were curious about its contents. For a time, everyone made their own guesses.

...

Meanwhile, before the temple of the Fallen Ark...

The sudden system notification caught Shi Feng and the others by surprise.

They had only activated the entrance of the Fallen Ark after much difficulty, yet even before they had the chance to enter the Ark, the system announced an update. This was ridiculous!

By now, practically everybody playing God's Domain knew that a system update signified a major upgrade.

Meanwhile, the more God's Domain improved, the more difficult the game would become.

"Guild Leader, should we log off here?" Aqua Rose and the others turned to Shi Feng.

The game had given them 20 minutes to log off. It wasn't exactly a lot of time, but it was more than nothing. If they strived hard enough, they might reach the Fallen Ark's inner region.

If they entered the Ark after the system update completed, who knew how difficult the Ark would become? After all, this system was definitely related to the Fallen Ark's activation.

After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng looked to Breeze Wine and Endless Scars and said seriously, "We have decided to enter the Ark right away. Do you want to enter first, or wait until after the update?"

Shi Feng hadn't expected the system update this time.

However, this helped Shi Feng recall the system's update after the Fallen Ark had emerged in the past. The update back then had ruined many players.

This was because this update would improve God's Domain's traps. Not only would removing the traps become twice as difficult, but the traps power and concealment effect also increased significantly.

This situation caused many players, who enjoyed adventuring in the fields, many hardships. The higher difficulty of obtaining weapons and equipment for adventure-seeking independent players was also due to this update.

In God's Domain, there were three major sources for weapons and equipment. The first was Dungeons, the second was field adventures, and the third was quest rewards.

In the past, due to this system update, the weapons and equipment on the market had decreased significantly. As a result, players that produced weapons and equipment became even more important in God's Domain.

The Gods from the ancient era had left behind the traps inside the Fallen Ark. These traps were incredibly difficult to remove to start with. If these traps were improved, exploring the Fallen Ark would become far more difficult. However, Shi Feng had no intentions of informing the Midnight Tea Party about this.

Instead of answering Shi Feng's question, Endless Scars turned to ask Breeze Wine, "Leader, what are your thoughts?"

They had already cleared the most difficult part of their quest. However, Shi Feng had previously stated that, shortly after the Fallen Ark activated, monsters even more powerful than the five Guardian Bosses would appear. According to their original plan, they had intended to wait until the monsters had been lured away from the Fallen Ark before they dove in to explore.

However, they had less than twenty minutes before they had to log off. If they entered the Ark now, they would have to risk encountering those monsters.

"Let's not enter the Ark for now. The monsters inside have yet to leave. If we die because we rushed into the Ark, it will do us more harm than good." In the end, Breeze Wine chose the safer approach instead.

In his opinion, as long as he had the Fallen Ark Map, both the Fallen Ark's treasures and quest were within their grasp. There was no need to risk their lives.

"What about our map?" Blackie could not help but ask.

Their previous agreement hinged on the Midnight Tea Party confirming these monsters existence and their safe entry into the Fallen Ark. Only after these conditions were met would the Midnight Tea Party

give them a copy of the map, yet the adventurer team now intended to wait until the monsters had been lured away from the Ark.

“Here is your copy of the Fallen Ark Map. Take it,” Endless Scars said as she took a map from her bag and handed it to Shi Feng.

Endless Scars stunned the other Midnight Tea Party members.

They had neither the existence of the monsters Shi Feng had warned them about, nor had they confirmed the validity of Shi Feng’s method to lure the monsters away. It was simply too risky to hand over the copy right now.

“Thanks.” Shi Feng expressed his gratitude as he received the map.

Endless Scars didn’t respond to her team’s questions. Instead, she evaluated Shi Feng carefully before revealing an intimate smile and said, “This is what we’ve agreed upon, after all. However, this is our second transaction with each other, yet I still do not know your identity. I wonder if I can have the good fortune of a true introduction?”

“Certainly,” Shi Feng replied before taking off the Black Cloak that hid his identity and appearance. He then introduced himself, “I am Black Flame, Zero Wing’s Guild Leader!”

His first reason for hiding his and his team’s identities was that he didn’t want others to know what Zero Wing’s main force was up to. His second? He simply didn’t want Endless Scars to know who they were. After all, Endless Scars was a Blackwater Corporation representative. Even if Endless Scars did not show any particular interest in Blackwater, at the end of the day, Zero Wing and Blackwater were enemies. It never hurt to be careful.

However, the Fallen Ark Map was more important.

If Endless Scars found out that they were from Zero Wing, she might sever their agreement for the Fallen Ark Map then and there.

However, now that the map was in their hands, there was no reason to continue hiding their identities. Moreover, Endless Scars spoke on behalf of the Midnight Tea Party. It would only create an unnecessary rift between their teams if they refused to reveal themselves. In addition, the Midnight Tea Party and Blackwater were utterly unrelated.

“It’s you!?” Endless Scars’s eyes widened in shock.

She had never imagined the group of experts before her to be Zero Wing members. Moreover, the team’s leader was even Zero Wing’s Guild Leader himself.

“Thanks for the map! Hopefully, we’ll find more chances to work together in the future!” Shi Feng chuckled. He then led his team and dashed into the Fallen Ark.

Meanwhile, Endless Scars was utterly dumbfounded as she stared at Shi Feng’s departing back.

“Big Sis Endless, what’s wrong?” Cloud Yarn asked curiously when she saw Endless Scars’s astonishment.

Although it was indeed surprising that the other team's leader was Zero Wing's Guild Leader, Black Flame, this wasn't the reason for Endless Scars's shock.

In the past, their team had encountered many surprises. However, none of them had ever earned such a reaction from Endless Scars. This was her first time seeing such an expression on Endless Scars's face. Before today, she hadn't even thought that Endless Scars was capable of such an expression.

Chapter 1127: Ark's Armory

Chapter 1127 – Ark's Armory

Star-Moon City, Blackwater's Residence:

Blackwater wasn't as prosperous as it had been. Very few players waited in front of the Guild Residence's entrance, eager to join. If not for the Blackwater Corporation's backing, not even these few players would be willing to join Blackwater.

Not only had the Blackwater elite members that had died in the war in Stone Forest Town lost one level, but they had also lost a weapon or a piece of equipment. To make up for this loss, the elite players wouldn't have any time to help other Guild members for some time.

One of the main reasons that independent players willingly joined Guilds for the Guild experts' help in leveling and raiding Dungeons to upgrade weapons and equipment. Practically every Guild in God's Domain provided this benefit. Players wouldn't want to join a Guild that did not provide such a benefit. As a result, Blackwater's ordinary members had stagnated. They were now only capable of raiding Party Dungeons and small-scale Team Dungeons. They had no choice but to stay as far away as possible from 50-man or above Team Dungeons.

Meanwhile, Qin Muyun, Laughing Drunkard, and Lethal Gale entered the Guild Leader's office, one after another.

"Guild Leader, here is the latest Guild report you asked for," Qin Muyun said as she placed a report on the table. At this moment, she wore a grave expression.

The report clearly stated that over 20,000 elite members had already withdrawn from the Guild, as many as a second-rate Guild's total count. As for the ordinary members that withdrew from the Guild, there were more than 100,000.

However, when Abandoned Wave looked at these numbers, he maintained a relatively nonchalant attitude. Instead, he shifted his gaze towards Lethal Gale and asked, "How is the Blackwater Trading Firm coming along?"

“The Candlelight Trading Firm’s latest product, the Exotic Stamina Potion, has been well-received. Despite having already reduced the Mana Mixture’s price to 10 Silver per bottle, ordinary players are buying the Exotic Stamina Potion instead. Right now, our Shops are only seeing one-third of our past traffic...” Lethal Gale said, shaking his head dejectedly. “Although our spies have already poked around in Candlelight, looking for information about the Exotic Stamina Potion, it seems that only a select few of the trading firm’s upper echelon know about the potion. As of now, we still do not know where to find the recipe.”

The Exotic Stamina Potion had massively impacted the market.

Setting aside how cheap it was, the Mana Mixture could not compare to its ten-hour duration. In addition, the Mana Mixture was only useful in Dungeons, whereas the Exotic Stamina Potion was useful in Dungeons and the fields.

At this moment, many ordinary players had given up on the Regeneration Potions and Mana Recovery Potions in order to buy the Exotic Stamina Potion. With the Exotic Stamina Potion, players could grind monsters for longer periods. With the potion’s effects, they did not even need to rest when traveling long distances, which allowed them to save plenty of time.

Even Lethal Gale could not resist the temptation and had purchased three bottles for himself. After using the potion, he had to admit that it was a miracle potion. The potion had improved his leveling speed by roughly 20% to 30%. It was no wonder why many players were even willing to empty their coffers to buy the Exotic Stamina Potion.

Based on what he knew, the Candlelight Light Trading Firm had long since run out of the Exotic Stamina Potion. As soon as Candlelight restocked, players would rip them from the shelves. Many large Guild upper echelons had specifically visited the Candlelight Trading Firm to negotiate a deal for the potions.

Right now, be it the Guild’s development or the trading firm’s, Zero Wing was unstoppable.

“Good! Excellent!” Contrary to expectations, Abandoned Wave didn’t seem enraged. Rather, he began to laugh.

“Guild Leader?” Qin Muyun and Lethal Gale were utterly confused.

Young Master Jing was greatly displeased with them. Most likely, they would receive instructions from their superiors in the next few days. At that time, none of them would escape punishment. This was especially true for Abandoned Wave, yet the man that was supposed to be worried and angry was actually laughing.

Was the shock too much for him to handle?

However, instead of responding to Qin Muyun and Lethal Gale’s question, Abandoned Wave turned towards Laughing Drunkard and asked softly, “Drunkard, did you finish what I asked of you?”

“Guild Leader, don’t you trust me?” Laughing Drunkard chuckled. Confidently, he continued, “I’ve already sent details regarding Zero Wing’s experts to the Miracle Guild. Miracle has confirmed that they will not give Zero Wing any chances of victory in tomorrow’s match in the Dark Arena.”

Originally, he was not particularly optimistic of Zero Wing's loss in the Dark Arena tomorrow. However, after making a trip to the Miracle Guild and the detailed report he had provided the Guild, his confidence that Zero Wing would lose in tomorrow's competition had grown.

The odds for the upcoming competition had already been released. The odds were one-to-three, with the majority of the bets on the Asura Battle Team. However, this was simply because only a few people knew that the Evil Dragon Battle Team was backed by the Miracle Guild. They had only discovered this due to the Blackwater Corporation's relationship with one of Miracle's upper echelons.

It was extremely rare for the odds in the Dark Arena to be as high as one-to-three. Normally, the odds were around one-to-one-point-five.

Seeing such a high payout rate, the Miracle Guild intended to go all out. Moreover, the Guild aimed for a complete victory.

The payout for a complete victory was one-to-seven. That was even high enough to tempt Super Guilds. A super-first-rate Guild like Miracle couldn't afford to miss this opportunity.

Miracle's apex experts could even rival those of Super Guilds. Moreover, to guarantee their win in the competition, Miracle had secretly borrowed Epic items from other large Guilds. Even Zero Wing's apex experts, who were famed for their heaven-defying Attributes, would be no match for the experts the Miracle intended to dispatch.

Zero Wing's members were so powerful mostly because of their Basic Attributes. As for the experts that had reached the Refinement Realm or higher, there were only five in the Guild. Among them, Black Flame would not participate in the Dark Arena. After all, the man was Zero Wing's Guild Leader. That left Ye Feng, Fire Dance, Gentle Snow, and Violet Cloud. Among them, Fire Dance, Gentle Snow, and Violet Cloud had only recently reached the Refinement Realm. Without the Attribute advantage, the only true fighting force on the Asura Battle Team was Ye Feng. However, the competition in the Dark Arena was a 10-man team match.

"Good. Afterward, you three go and gather our Guild's resources. When the time comes, we'll have to watch the competition as well." Abandoned Wave had not been as affected by the previous loss as Qin Muyun and Lethal Gale had thought. On the contrary, he had calmly thought of a way to turn the situation around.

The first thing he needed to do was recover the Guild's foundations, earning back the weapons, equipment, Coins, and other items that the Guild had lost in the war. The Dark Arena served as the perfect platform to do exactly that.

Moreover, Blackwater's defeat was not without meaning. At the very least, their defeat had shown exactly how powerful Zero Wing's various experts were, and this information would help Miracle deal with Zero Wing.

...

Meanwhile, after entering the towering temple, Shi Feng had everyone use Isolation Scrolls before dashing through the labyrinth of empty corridors.

As they had less than twenty minutes remaining, they would be hard-pressed to reach the Ark's inner region in time. The abyssal monsters had just woken and hadn't left the Ark yet.

In the outer region's corridors, Shi Feng's team occasionally encountered wandering Fallen Patrols. However, as Shi Feng now had a map, these Fallen Patrols meant nothing to the team with his acute senses. Not only could Shi Feng avoid the Patrols, but he could also avoid any traps.

"Mhm? So this is the armory."

After nearly ten minutes, Shi Feng discovered a tightly-shut door. The words "War Armory" had been carved on the stone above the massive door. Upon seeing these words, Shi Feng's heartbeat accelerated.

The War Armory stored weapons of war specifically.

And no other player had ever opened this War Armory!

Chapter 1128: Difference Between Mythic Monsters

Chapter 1128 – Difference Between Mythic Monsters

As Shi Feng stopped to look at the War Armory, Minor Wind noticed red dots appear on his system map and reported, "Guild Leader, distant Patrols are approaching our location. If we don't move now, I'm afraid that we'll be discovered."

After Zero Wing's team had entered the Fallen Ark, Minor Wind had activated his Scouting Skill as he kept a lookout for any movement in their area. Although his Scouting's search area was reduced inside the Ark, he could sense for enemies within a 300-yard radius. That was enough for the team to respond before enemies reached them.

"How many?" Shi Feng asked.

"Two. Moreover, they're moving relatively quickly. They'll reach our location in 15 seconds at most," Minor Wind reported.

Fifteen seconds? We'll be cutting it quite close... Shi Feng frowned. Based on his estimates, even an Assassin with their Locksmith class at Master rank would need roughly twenty seconds to open a room like the War Armory. Unfortunately, their team didn't have a Master Locksmith.

He also fully believed Minor Wind's estimate.

A qualified Ranger was not just a ranged damage dealer. Ranger's constant awareness of their surroundings and their judgment of various situations were their most important aspects. Although Minor Wind's combat standards were slightly lower than Zero Wing's other core members, his observation skills and judgment were top-notch.

"Guild Leader, we don't have much time left," Gentle Snow urged as they had less than eight seconds to prepare. Based on their location on the map, they were only two-thirds of the way to the Fallen Ark's inner region.

If they couldn't reach the inner region before the system update began, when they logged back into the game, reaching that area would be far more difficult. They also needed to select a treasury and deal with the traps inside.

Shi Feng hesitated.

In the past, the Fallen Ark had been a famous treasure trove in God's Domain. However, as the inner region's traps were extremely dangerous, very few players were capable of obtaining any treasures whatsoever. This situation had also resulted in the various large Guilds in giving up on the Ark.

However, Shi Feng never thought that he would actually come across an Armory in the outer region.

An Armory might not mean much to an ordinary player, but to a Guild, some of the more advanced weapons of war were even more valuable than Fragmented Legendary items.

"Forget it. We're giving up on the inner region. Let's take this Armory for now." After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng settled for the Armory. Right now, Zero Wing still lacked overall strength. It likely did not even have the power to defend a single city.

However, if they could find a few advanced weapons of war here, they might make up for Zero Wing's lack of combat power.

As long as they could construct and defend a city properly, the city's value would easily exceed that of two or three Fragmented Legendary items.

"Cola, you and Turtledove will tank the Patrols. Don't let them near us. Everyone else, look for any nearby traps. Fire Dance, you'll be responsible for unlocking the door," Shi Feng hurriedly commanded.

"Understood!"

Hearing this, everyone exploded into action.

The two Fallen Patrols were similar to those they had encountered at the entrance. They were both Level 63 Great Lords with 57,000,000 HP. However, Cola and Turtledove had long since familiarized themselves with the Patrol's attack patterns. Even without the Nine-star Polar Domain, they were capable of dealing with the Great Lords.

At the same time, Fire Dance began to unlock the door to the Armory.

As one of the Fallen Ark's secret rooms, the time it took to unlock the Armory was secondary. The crucial issue was that the extremely complex unlocking method. One would have to start the process all over again if they made a single mistake. Only after removing the various locks could one finally open the secret room.

Time passed quickly. After one minute, Fire Dance was only halfway through the door's locks.

“Guild Leader, two more Patrols are approaching!” Minor Wind announced anxiously.

If there were only three Fallen Patrols, their team could, more or less, manage. Four, however, would be a problem. As for trying to kill the Patrols, that would be considerably foolish. Special Lifeforms were immortal existences. Even after expending a lot of time and effort, the most they would get out of the endeavor was some EXP. After ten minutes, the Fallen Patrols would be back on their feet and ready to fight once again. Moreover, with each resurrection, the Fallen Patrols would become stronger. Only a lunatic would try to kill them.

“Wumian, you’ll come with me! Once Fire finishes unlocking the door, rush into the room the room! Remember; do not touch anything inside!” Shi Feng commanded. He then dashed towards the two new Fallen Patrols with Ye Wumian.

Shi Feng wouldn’t try to take on one of the Fallen Patrols directly. Instead, he activated Aura of Earth while deflecting the Patrol’s attacks. This way, not only could he reduce the damage he received, but he could also alleviate the burden on the team’s healers.

However, as time passed, a loud roar echoed from a distant corridor. The angry roar reverberated through the spacious corridor.

Already?! Shi Feng’s expression darkened.

The abyssal monsters had awakened far sooner than he had anticipated.

If these monsters discovered his teams, none of them would get out of here alive.

...

Shi Feng’s team wasn’t the only one who had heard the roar. The Midnight Tea Party’s members, who waited outside the Fallen Ark quietly, heard the deafening roar as well.

“Black Flame really didn’t lie.” Breeze Wine could not help but inwardly celebrate when he heard this roar. “The fact that this roar is so deep and can reach all the way out here means that this monster should be Mythic rank at the very least.”

Fortunately, they had made the trade with Shi Feng. Otherwise, even if they had activated the Fallen Ark by themselves after obtaining their Tier 2 classes, they’d have no way of completing their quest.

The difference between Mythic monsters’ strength and Grand Lords’ was simply too massive. Even if their entire team reached Tier 2, it wasn’t likely that they could defeat a Mythic monster of the same level, much less a Mythic monster of a higher level.

The other team members nodded in agreement. Despite Dark War and several other people’s opinions about Shi Feng, they had to admit that Shi Feng had helped them enormously.

...

Meanwhile, before the Fallen Ark’s Armory, Fire Dance finally unlocked the door to the secret room.

“Guild Leader, the door’s open!”

“Good! You guys go in first! Cola, start slowly moving towards Armory!”

Opening the tightly-shut door was undoubtedly good news to Shi Feng. Immediately, he had everyone retreat towards the Armory.

As Shi Feng and the others reached the Armory's entrance, Shi Feng, Cola, and the other MTs felt their bodies become heavy. It was as if they had been submerged in mud; it was extremely difficult to move.

"Not good! Those monsters have arrived! Get inside, quickly!"

Shi Feng panicked. Immediately, he activated Heavenly Dragon's Power and recovered his ability to move. He then took an aqua-blue Magic Scroll from his bag. This Magic Scroll was none other than his sole remaining Tier 4 Magic Scroll.

The area they were in was not particularly large, but he understood how powerful those monsters were. Any players the abyssal monsters killed would not get off with just a lost level. If that were the case, players in the past wouldn't have given up on the Fallen Ark's treasures that easily. Rather, those abyssal monsters would extract the Immortal Souls from the players they killed. Not only would players lose two or three levels, but they also wouldn't be able to log into the game for over ten days.

"Humans? Those souls...heaven-blessed individuals? Wonderful! It's been so long since I've tasted an Immortal Soul!"

As Cola and the others rushed into the Armory, a cold voice reached their ears, making them shudder with fear. Suddenly, as if the Fallen Patrols had been struck, the team watched the Great Lords fly into the corridor's walls, their powerful metallic bodies flattening like a specimen under a microscope.

Aside from Shi Feng, none of the players could move.

"Why is such a powerful monster her?!"

The abyssal monster's might far exceeded Gentle Snow and the rest of the team's expectations.

Before the monster had even shown itself, it had already flattened the four Fallen Patrols into pancakes. They had become fish on a cutting board.

Chapter 1129: Ransacking the Armory

Chapter 1129 – Ransacking the Armory

Sure enough, a complete Domain is really powerful!

Shi Feng was slightly stunned. The Fallen Ark's abyssal monsters were much stronger than he had imagined. It was no wonder why God's Domain's various superpowers hadn't been a match for these monsters in the past.

This was definitely the first time Shi Feng had encountered a Mythic monster that wielded a complete Domain. Generally, only Tier 4 NPCs could use one. This was also the factor that provided Tier 4 NPCs the power to face Tier 4 Mythic monsters.

Right now, despite him having activated Heavenly Dragon's Power, he could barely move his body. His joints even creaked as he moved.

“Oh? Someone can still move?”

As Shi Feng moved, a cold, deep voice reverberated through everyone’s minds. When the team members lifted their heads, they discovered that a humanoid creature, which was roughly four meters tall and covered in scales, had suddenly appeared before them. The creature had two blade-like arms and crimson eyes that were as large as an ordinary human’s fist. Two sets of jet-black wings also stretched from the creature’s back.

[Soul Eater Lord] (Dark Creature, Mythic [Weakened])

Level 67

HP 210,000,000/210,000,000

Every player gasped when they saw this creature.

Despite being weakened, the creature was still a Mythic monster. Moreover, the team despaired upon seeing his HP. Even a team of 1,000 experts would be cannon fodder against this monster, much less a 20-man team.

We’re doomed! As Aqua Rose watched the Soul Eater Lord gradually approach them, she could already see her and her teammates’ instant death in her mind.

However, Aqua Rose still did not know that any player the Fallen Ark’s ancient abyssal monsters killed would not get away with losing a single level.

“What an interesting little fellow. It’s a pity that your struggling is useless. Just become my soul’s nourishment obediently,” the Soul Eater Lord said as he widened his ferocious mouth. He could no longer wait to devour these players.

When 30 yards separated the team from the Soul Eater Lord, Shi Feng finally finished chanting the last verse of the incantation in his heart. He abruptly unfurled the dark blue Magic Scroll in his hands.

“Pointless resistance will only add to your pain and despair!”

The Soul Eater Lord had already noticed the Tier 4 Magic Scroll in Shi Feng’s hands. However, he disregarded the object because he was fully capable of dealing with any Tier 4 Spells. If it were a Tier 5 Magic Scroll, he might be nervous. However, such Magic Scrolls had even been extremely rare during the ancient era, not to mention the present era.

“Oh, really?” Shi Feng smiled faintly.

Immediately, an aqua-blue magic array formed beneath Shi Feng’s feet. Following which, with Shi Feng as the center, a faint blue barrier expanded outward.

Tier 4 Curse, Water Boundary!

Water Boundary was not an attack-type Curse. Rather, it was a defensive Curse. The Curse was even capable of blocking Tier 5 attacks. It was a kind of absolute defense; the Curse had a radius of 20 yards and a duration of 30 seconds.

After Water Boundary formed, Zero Wing's members immediately felt the pressure dissipate as they regained their freedom of movement.

"Damn it!" The Soul Eater Lord's expression twisted as the Water Boundary formed. It then began to assault the barrier.

Boom... Boom... Boom...

The Soul Eater Lord was so fast that even Shi Feng could barely see its movements.

Everyone's hearts pounded as a series of expressions echoed throughout the Fallen Ark.

They were terrified that the Soul Eater Lord would break through the seemingly flimsy, light-blue barrier.

After glancing at the fluctuating, blue barrier, Shi Feng shifted his attention away from the Soul Eater Lord as he commanded, "Alright, get moving! We don't have much time left!"

As a Tier 4 defensive Curse, Water Boundary could withstand the Soul Eater Lord's attacks, even if he were at his peak. The Soul Eater tribe's king, though, would have no problem shattering the barrier. Unfortunately, that kind of existence, which was as powerful as Gods, was not in the current Ark.

Following which, the Soul Eater Lord could only watch helplessly as Shi Feng led his team into the Armory.

After entering the Armory, Shi Feng turned around and shut the door, immediately locking it.

"Guild Leader, that monster can't break in here, right?" Violet Cloud asked worriedly as she recalled how powerful the Soul Eater was.

"Relax. This is the Fallen Ark, one of the final weapons the Gods created. Divine runes strengthen the Ark's interior. Even a Soul Eater King would have a hard time destroying the interior of the Ark, not to mention a Soul Eater Lord," Shi Feng said nonchalantly.

His companions could not help but release a sigh of relief when they heard Shi Feng's reassurance.

"Now that the danger has been dealt with, Fire, you and Flying will disable the traps inside the Armory. Everyone else, move carefully!" Shi Feng ordered. Looking at the time, he found that they had around six minutes before they had to log out of the game. If they could not remove the traps within the Armory during these six minutes, by the time they logged back into the game, these traps would become much harder to disable.

Hearing this, Fire Dance and Flying Shadow immediately went into action.

As for the rest of the team, they let their gazes wander the Armory.

For a moment, they were stupefied.

The Armory was a massive treasure trove. There was a variety of tools on display, and every one was extremely tempting.

“Guild Leader, look over there! Mana Pulse Cannons! They’re even Intermediate rank!”

During the war against the Star Alliance, Shi Feng had spent 20,000 Gold to purchase a Basic Mana Pulse Cannon. A single attack from the cannon could rival the might of a Tier 4 large-scale destruction Spell. Moreover, the cannon had a range of 15,000 yards and a radius of 200 yards. Unfortunately, the cannon was very costly to use, with each shot requiring 1,000 Magic Crystals. Moreover, it had a long Cooldown of around three to four minutes.

Meanwhile, upon reading the Intermediate Mana Pulse Cannon’s information, the team discovered that it was even more impressive than they had thought. Although its attack was roughly as powerful as a Tier 4 destruction Spell, it had a range of 20,000 yards and a radius of 500 yards. It cost 2,000 Magic Crystals to fire a single round and similarly had a Cooldown of around three to four minutes.

The difference between a radius of 200 yards and 500 yards was simply outrageous.

Furthermore, this Armory actually had two Intermediate Mana Pulse Cannons. If Zero Wing had had these two cannons and a sufficient number of Magic Crystals during its battle against Blackwater, winning the war would have been far easier.

However, rather than the Mana Pulse Cannon, Shi Feng’s gaze stopped on a magical, steel car.

He was quite familiar with this item.

Movement-type defensive magic array. Although it was only a Basic Defensive Magic Array, it could be moved freely even after being activated. In the past, large Guilds treated it like a mobile fortress. As long as this magic array had enough Mana, it could block all Tier 3 attacks and lower. Meanwhile, its maximum radius could cover an entire Basic Town.

Aside from the Mana Pulse Cannons and movement-type defensive magic array, there were a large number of Basic Mana Pulse Bombs. Every bomb possessed the might of a Tier 3 Spell and had a radius of 25 yards. They could be thrown up to a maximum of 50 yards. They were incredibly suited for individual players. To current players, these Mana Pulse Bombs were godly weapons in group battles as a single bomb could obliterate all players in a 25-yard radius.

There were actually over a thousand of such bombs...

Shi Feng had never imagined that a single Armory would contain such a large harvest. With these items, the issue of his future city’s defense was practically settled.

Seconds passed, then minutes. When there were only two minutes before the system update began, Fire Dance and Flying Shadow had disabled 90% of the Armory’s traps. Only one trap set up around a stone altar was left.

“Guild Leader, this trap is too complex! Even I can’t disable it!” Fire Dance exclaimed as she examined the trap before her.

“Even you can’t disable it?” Shi Feng was surprised.

They were still in the Ark's outer region. With Fire Dance being an Advanced Trap Disabler, she should be able to deal with every trap here. It was only a matter of time.

However, the fact that Fire Dance was unable to disable the trap spoke volumes about the stone altar's value.

Since time was running out, Shi Feng immediately removed Icarus's Heart from his neck and passed it to Fire Dance.

Fire Dance was momentarily dazed when she saw Icarus's Heart. She had never expected such a powerful Epic item to exist.

"Hurry; use this to disable the trap!" Shi Feng instructed.

Trap Disabler was a similar Lifestyle class to the Appraiser class. However, it was not a particularly popular class. The Assassin class possessed a talent bonus that allowed them to level Lifestyle classes like Locksmith and Trap Disabler far more easily.

With Shi Feng's command, Fire Dance recovered her wits and activated God's Blessing, upgrading her Trap Disabler class to the Master rank.

Immediately, Fire Dance began to disable the trap on the stone altar.

However, this trap would require a considerably long time to disable.

"Quick! We don't have much time left!" Shi Feng's anxiety grew when he saw only 30 seconds remaining.

If Fire Dance failed, the next time they logged into the game, the consequence would not be limited to some lost time.

Fire Dance also grew desperate. Her mind focused like never before as she frantically disabled the trap's mechanisms, one after another.

There were only ten seconds remaining.

Five seconds!

Three seconds!

...

"It's disabled!" Fire Dance finally disabled the trap with only two seconds remaining, and she could not help but sigh in relief at her success.

Following which, everyone's vision faded to black as they were sent to their individual God's Domain Offline Rest Spaces.

Chapter 1130: Talent

Inside the Offline Rest Space, Shi Feng slowly opened his eyes.

With this, all we need to do is wait for the system update to end and log back into the game. Shi Feng could not help his growing excitement when he thought about the stone altar.

Even the Intermediate Mana Pulse Cannons had only been protected by Advanced Traps.

Whatever Master Traps protected definitely stored far more valuable treasures.

Shi Feng shifted his gaze to the system interface displayed before him.

The interface showed 14 hours and 40 minutes before the system update completed. From this, Shi Feng could tell that significant changes would shake God's Domain.

A nearly 15-hour-long system update... It's roughly the same duration as when the Fallen Ark had been activated in the past. Shi Feng could not help but recall detailed information about the system update in the past.

Every time God's Domain underwent a system update, it, more or less, changed Guilds' path of development. For example, the previous few system updates had gradually increased the importance of Lifestyle classes in the various large Guilds' eyes. Guild had even begun to invest a significant amount of resources to nurture their Lifestyle classes. Similarly, the system update this time would change God's Domain once more.

There were many Lifestyle classes in God's Domain. They weren't limited to Forgers, Engineers, Alchemists, Enchanters, Leatherworkers, Tailors, Chefs, and such. There were many other Lifestyle classes that players did not pay much attention to such as Diviners, Architects, Appraisers, Fraudsters, Cultivators, Tamers, Scholars, Magicians, Locksmiths, and other minor subclasses.

This latest update would gradually increase the importance of these minor subclasses in the game.

Before the trap mechanisms in God's Domain had been perfected, adventurer players who explored the fields could get by financially in the game relatively easily. In the fields, their main problem when they found treasure was the guardian monsters. Rarely would any player pay attention to the traps protecting the treasure. This was because of the only two possibilities when one tried to disable a trap. The first was that the trap could be disabled, although the time required depended on the player. The other possibility was that the trap could not be disabled.

One wouldn't receive any kind of punishment for failing to disable a trap. As a result, players rarely paid much attention to the Trap Disabler class.

However, after this system update, a third outcome would occur.

A trap could be disabled, but failure came with a risk.

If one failed to disable a trap, they would trigger the trap itself.

Trap's strengths varied. If players triggered a weaker trap, they might retain their lives. Even in the event of death, players would only suffer the normal death penalties. For stronger traps, however, players might have to pay more than a single level for their failure.

Another example was the Magician subclass, one of the minor subclasses Shi Feng had learned. A Magician's role was to produce items such as Magic Scrolls and Magic Arrays. Although the Magician subclass was not as important as the Forger subclass, it was one of the essential subclasses in God's Domain. Moreover, as the subclass increased its rank, it would serve a greater purpose.

Due to the increased importance of the various minor subclasses, the large Guilds began to nurture these subclasses to aid their Guilds' development.

It seems that I'll have to get Melancholic to start collecting Purple Dew and Five-colored Flowers once I log back in. After some thought, Shi Feng decided to start nurturing a batch of players with minor subclasses.

Minor subclasses were not as difficult to improve as major subclasses. There was no need to expend a large stock of materials for trial and error. One simply needed to achieve a certain technical standard to rise through the ranks.

Take the Magician subclass for example. If a player produced a Basic Magic Array, they would become a Basic Magician. If they produced an Intermediate Magic Array, they would become Intermediate Magicians. There was no need to accumulate a large number of Proficiency Points. Promotion solely depended on a player's technical skills.

However, while there were no restrictions on learning minor subclasses, with players being allowed to learn over ten minor subclasses, due to personal talent, not everyone could level a subclass to Intermediate or Advanced rank, much less Master rank.

Due to this, players should learn only the minor subclasses they were proficient at if they wished to advance to higher stages in the game.

However, how was a player supposed to determine which minor subclass they were proficient at?

In the past, the most popular way to test their abilities was the Talent Potion. As long as players drank the Talent Potion, the system would provide a series of tests. After completing these tests, the system would notify players about the subclass they were most suited for. This way, players would not have to waste their time researching whether they were suitable for a certain subclass or not.

Of course, if players liked a particular subclass, they could learn it regardless of whether they had the talent. They just wouldn't be able to advance quickly.

Meanwhile, the main materials for crafting the Talent Potion was Purple Dew and Five-colored Flower. Shi Feng also knew where to find the recipe. As long as he went there to grind, he should have no problems obtaining a few copies.

After Shi Feng finished planning his development, he decided to rest in the virtual space. Only at seven in the morning did he exit his virtual gaming cabin.

After Shi Feng finished breakfast and did some light exercises, before he left to check on Zero Wing's new internal members in the dojo, he noticed his female assistant, who currently wore black working attire, waiting for him by the lounge's entrance.

"Head Instructor, Chairman Xiao has an extremely important matter he wishes to discuss with you. He is waiting in the Chairman's Office right now," Liang Jing reported as she walked up to Shi Feng, who wore blue sportswear.

"Got it." Shi Feng nodded.

In reality, even if Xiao Yu hadn't come looking for him, he would've likely sought the man out himself within the next few days.

During his previous expansion of the Zero Wing Workshop, he had recruited plenty of talented people. These people were all much stronger than the independent players he had recruited in God's Domain. Although their levels in the game were still quite low, their combat standards were already higher ordinary elite players. In addition, he and Lei Bao normally trained these new recruits. It was only a matter of time before they could clear the Trial Tower's fourth floor.

Once these people reached the fifth floor, they would become experts in the eyes of ordinary players. If they could reach the fifth floor's late stage, even large Guilds would treat them like experts.

However, Shi Feng wasn't looking for ordinary experts. He wanted apex experts capable of turning the tides of war by themselves.

It was extremely difficult to nurture such apex experts. First, he needed a sufficient amount of resources such as the S-rank Nutrient Fluid. However, Shi Feng didn't have the connections he needed to gain a large quantity. Fortunately, Xiao Yu did.

...

The Big Dipper Tower's 51st floor:

This floor was specifically reserved for the chairman of the Big Dipper Group. It was also the Big Dipper Tower's highest floor. From in the corridor, they could see the entirety of Jin Hai City through the glass walls.

Very few people in Jin Hai City were ever invited to this floor. Even Liang Jing, Chairman Xiao's senior assistant, had never set foot on this floor. Generally, she waited for the chairman on the 50th floor.

As Liang Jing followed Shi Feng to the Chairman's Office, she sighed ruefully as she stared at Shi Feng's back.

If not for Director Xiao allowing her to bring Shi Feng here, she would never have had the opportunity to see this floor.

When Liang Jing opened the doors to the Chairman's Office, an office the size of a basketball court appeared before her eyes. Three people sat before the room's french windows.

Shi Feng was familiar with all three. One of them was Xiao Yu; another was Gan Xingteng, the bald man who Fire Dance had thoroughly defeated, and the last Xie Qiwen, the handsome youth with a body as robust as Lei Bao's, known as the White Tiger Dojo's fighting genius.