

Strongest

Chapter 1323 – Overwhelming

Blackie, Aqua Rose, and the other core members of Zero Wing in the spectator stands blinked in surprise.

“Guild Leader, you’re going to fight?” Turtledove, who stood by the stage, could not help but ask in surprise as Shi Feng walked towards her.

Shi Feng wasn’t wearing his Black Cloak, his appearance on display for all to see. However, even with an Identification Skill, players would only see his name, nothing else.

“Mhm. I want to see their true strength for myself.” Shi Feng nodded.

Although Blackie had sent him some of the opponents’ battle videos, Flying Shadow and the others hadn’t been able to force them to exhibit their true strength. They hadn’t used anything unique, so it wasn’t easy to relate them to God’s Domain’s past experts.

“Guild Leader, you need to be careful. When I fought him, I had the feeling that I couldn’t exert my full power. It was as if all of my attacks had struck a ball of cotton. The technique he used to finish me off was particularly mysterious. When I watched the battle videos of when he had used the same technique during the previous rounds, I only saw him move. There were no afterimages or anything. But when I had faced him myself, it felt as if he had been everywhere around me.”

*Ghost Steps?*

Hearing Turtledove’s experience, the only combat technique that came to Shi Feng’s mind was Ghost Steps. Like Void Steps, Ghost Steps was an advanced footwork technique. The technique made it difficult for opponents to predict the user’s attack trajectory. In the past, very few people in God’s Domain had used this technique. However, of the players Shi Feng could remember, none resembled the man on the stage.

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“Ye Feng? It seems that Zero Wing is finally taking us seriously,” Evil Fire, who sat in the VIP stands, said, smiling as he watched Shi Feng.

According to his knowledge, after Black Flame, the next strongest experts were Fire Dance, Gentle Snow, Ye Feng, and Violet Cloud.

“Is he strong?” the menacing-looking man carrying a blood-red shield on his back and holding a hammer asked curiously.

“Unwavering, based on Evil’s reaction, he must be. It’s a pity that it is still Tiger’s turn to fight. If that player had just waited a little longer, it would’ve been my turn,” a gorgeous, graceful woman said as she

toyed with the pitch-black dagger in her hand. The woman wore the Light of Darkness Set Equipment, a Level 45 Dark-Gold Set Equipment for Assassins. Sighing, she continued, "Watching from the sidelines is really boring."

"Flower's right. We shouldn't have agreed to such long intervals. Thanks to that, Tiger's getting all the good fights."

The other group members nodded in agreement.

They were fully aware of how strong the Berserker, Mighty Tiger, was. He was already Level 44. He could easily rank among the top 10 on an empire's Ranking List. Although he didn't wear Level 45 Dark-Gold Set Equipment, he had two pieces of Growth-type Equipment on him and had already upgraded both to the Dark-Gold rank. They were much stronger than ordinary Dark-Gold Equipment. Their Attributes were also suitable for Berserkers.

Recently, Mighty Tiger had also his Growth-type Weapon, Howling Tomahawk, to Epic rank, raising his combat power to a whole new level. Even their team leader had said that, with Mighty Tiger's standards, he could already challenge the top 200 experts on the God's Domain Experts List.

Moreover, that was without using Ghost Steps.

But what about Star-Moon Kingdom?

Aside from Black Flame, who ranked 51st on the God's Domain Experts List, the kingdom didn't have a single player in the top 200. If anything, only Fire Dance, who had risen to the 215th position in the latest update, was worth their attention.

"As long as Tiger defeats Ye Feng, we just need to defeat Fire Dance or Gentle Snow. After that, I doubt that Black Flame will be able to just stand by. He'll be forced to accept your challenge tomorrow, Evil." Unwavering Hand said as he shifted his gaze to Aqua Rose and the other Zero Wing core members. "Evil, make sure to give it your all. The leader has a very favorable view of you. You will be representing our adventurer team in its debut fight. You can't lose."

"Big Brother Unwavering, I thought you were aware of my abilities. Just sit back and enjoy the fight tomorrow," Evil Fire said, smiling.

He paid no attention whatsoever to Black Flame's title of Sword King. He only had one goal: to rank among the top 10 on the God's Domain Experts List.

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Meanwhile, an uproar shook the spectator stands.

"Crap, isn't that Ye Feng, Zero Wing's Honorary Elder?"

"After losing so many matches, it seems Zero Wing had finally decided to get serious. That Berserker's winning streak will come to an end."

"That's not certain. The previous Zero Wing experts were defeated so easily. Although the rumors about Ye Feng's feats are impressive, that doesn't mean he can defeat that Berserker."

“That’s right! None of Zero Wing’s experts could reduce the Berserker’s HP to below 50%. This is also a melee battle; they can’t use any Skills, Spells, or tools. This shows how high the Berserker’s combat standards are. Even if he is going up against Ye Feng, I’m willing to bet that he has more than a 60% chance of winning. If anything, I don’t think anyone but Black Flame and Fire Dance can put up a fight.”

“I guess that’s true. Although the rumors about Ye Feng say that he is very powerful, his battle records are old. Now that everyone’s been playing God’s Domain for so long, their combat standards have improved significantly. I don’t think that Ye Feng can win that easily.”

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The audience discussed the upcoming fight headedly. Meanwhile, members of the various large Guilds were eager to watch the fight. They hoped to watch Zero Wing humiliate itself.

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Meanwhile, on the stage, Mighty Tiger glared at Shi Feng. He asked, “What? You wanna be my opponent?”

“That’s right,” Shi Feng answered calmly, nodding.

“The previous fights were over before I could even warm up. They were boring. Hopefully, you don’t disappoint me as well.” Mighty Tiger laughed as he glanced at Flying Shadow and the others, who sat in the spectator stands.

He had gained some insight about Shi Feng from Evil Fire. Rumored to be as strong as Fire Dance, who was ranked 215th on the God’s Domain Experts List, he should serve as a decent opponent.

Flying Shadow and his companions gritted their teeth when they heard Mighty Tiger’s comment. However, they couldn’t do anything about it. Despite having the advantage in terms of Basic Attributes, they had been defeated. This proved that Mighty Tiger’s combat techniques were superior to theirs.

“How do you want to set the rules of the match?” Shi Feng asked calmly, unperturbed by Mighty Tiger’s provocation.

“Same as before. No Spells, Skills, or tools are allowed. We’ll compete using only our techniques.” Mighty Tiger set the duel’s rules and sent Shi Feng a duel request. “If you’re not used to melee battles, I can only use 70% of my HP against you. You’ll win if you take me down to 30%.”

Hearing Mighty Tiger’s terms, the spectators gasped. They hadn’t expected Mighty Tiger to be so bold.

However, Mighty Tiger earned his arrogance. After all, none of Zero Wing’s experts had reduced his HP to below 50%.

“That’s fine. Let’s begin,” Shi Feng said nonchalantly.

Once both sides had agreed to the duel, a timer appeared above the stage.

5...

4...

3...

2...

1...

Start!

“Let’s see how strong you really are.”

As the duel began, Mighty Tiger retrieved the two axes from his back and dashed towards Shi Feng like a tiger pouncing on its prey. Shi Feng could feel the Berserker’s icy killing intent lock onto him. It was clear that the Berserker wasn’t like the players who only fought in games.

When Mighty Tiger was 10 yards away from Shi Feng, his footwork changed.

*Sure enough, he’s using Ghost Steps*, Shi Feng thought when he saw Mighty Tiger’s body suddenly split into two identical clones, both moving in different directions. Very quickly, the two clones split into four and so on. It was as if Mighty Tiger had used a Skill to create doppelgangers or illusions. To players who could not use Skills or Spells, this was an extreme disadvantage.

“Tiger is taking this too seriously. He’s using Ghost Steps right off the bat. Ye Feng won’t even have a chance to display his skills,” Unwavering Hand said, shaking his head.

From the audience’s viewpoint, it seemed as if Mighty Tiger had approached Shi Feng head-on before turning abruptly and circling to his opponent’s side.

When Shi Feng and Mighty Tiger collided, a blue light flashed on the stage.

As Mighty Tiger turned to launch a follow-up attack, his vision started to grow dark. He then noticed a flower of blood bloom across his chest. Before he had realized what had happened, he collapsed to the ground behind Shi Feng.

“What just happened?” Everyone was confused as they stared at Mighty Tiger’s corpse, none of them knowing what had just happened.

Following which, the victor’s name appeared above the stage.

Ye Feng!

Chapter 1324 – Sword God’s Weapon

“Tiger lost!?”

“What just happened?! How did Tiger die so quickly?! Was Tiger even attacked?! He used Ghost Steps! How could he get hit in a melee battle?! Can someone explain to me what just happened?!”

Falling Flower stared at Mighty Tiger’s corpse in astonishment from the VIP stands. She was practically shouting as she questioned the companions who sat beside her.

From start to end, her eyes hadn’t left the stage. She had been focused on the combatants. However, when Mighty Tiger had circled to Shi Feng’s back and was about to land a blow, he died instead.

Just what had Shi Feng done during that brief moment?

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Meanwhile, the players in the spectator stands were even more confused. Mighty Tiger had already been so fast that they couldn't keep up with him. Now, the battle had ended before they could understand what had happened.

"An act? Is Zero Wing trying to hype up the competition?"

"No, that's not right. Even if this is an act, the system recognized it as an official duel. It won't declare a victor until one of their HPs hits zero. But, how could anyone eliminate over 30,000 of a Berserker's HP in an instant?"

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The match confused every spectator, so much so that they had forgotten to cheer. The tournament hall was utterly silent as everyone stared at the stage.

"What did the Guild Leader do?" Blackie had to ask.

With his eyesight, he had barely been able to keep up with Mighty Tiger's movements. He hadn't seen anything when Shi Feng had attacked.

"Is this a Tier 2 class?" Aqua Rose was stunned as she looked at Shi Feng.

"Big Sis Aqua, do you know what happened?" Flying Shadow asked eagerly.

"No, I just reacted. When that Berserker circled the Guild Leader, I saw a flash of blue light. The Guild Leader must've attacked him. It seems that the Berserker failed to react in time. After watching the recording in slow motion, I saw Guild Leader use a standard slash. His Attack Speed wasn't on par with his Instant Strike. This speed isn't due to high Attack Speed. He just used his reaction speed. The Guild Leader's reaction speed has already surpassed the level that our eyes can keep up with," Aqua Rose explained after giving the matter some thought.

"The Guild Leader really is a monster." Realization dawned on Flying Shadow when he heard Aqua Rose's explanation. He had thought that after training arduously for so long, he had shortened the distance between Shi Feng and himself. However, the gap had continued to widen.

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Meanwhile, after the duel, Mighty Tiger resurrected below the stage. When he looked up at Shi Feng, fear, respect, and confusion filled his gaze.

Rather than bewilderment, he was surprised that Shi Feng had seen through his Ghost Steps.

His team leader had told him that even the top 100 experts on the God's Domain Experts List wouldn't be able to see through his Ghost Steps, much less Shi Feng, who had never seen the technique before.

However, Mighty Tiger couldn't believe that was true. Shi Feng must have seen Ghost Steps many times. Ghost Steps was a special technique that combined footwork, killing intent targeting, and aura concealment to create the illusion that enemies surrounded the opponent, while in reality, only one of those enemies was real. It was a combat technique that specialized in dealing with experts. Experts had very sharp senses, and they would often react instinctively. It was an amazing technique. Against an ordinary player, however, the technique's effects would be minimal.

Aside from being a peak expert, Shi Feng was a Tier 2 Sword Master. His physique far exceeded Mighty Tiger's. When dealing with abnormal speed, Shi Feng only needed to focus, and Mighty Tiger's movements would play in slow motion in his mind.

Yet, Mighty Tiger had dared to come within five yards of him. The Berserker had been asking for a swift ending.

In the end, Shi Feng had triggered Killing Ray's Lightning effect, which allowed him to kill Mighty Tiger instantly.

"Who else wants to fight? That boring battle wasn't even a good warm up," Shi Feng quipped, smiling as he glanced at Evil Fire's group.

"You..." Mighty Tiger nearly choked when he heard Shi Feng's comment.

Unwavering Hand and the others also wore grim expressions, hesitation lingering in their eyes.

Shi Feng's performance had thoroughly stunned them.

Sure enough, the rumors about Ye Feng weren't credible in the least.

How was this supposed to be an expert on Fire Dance's level? Ye Feng was practically on the same level as Black Flame. He might even be superior to the Guild Leader.

"Zero Wing has truly earned its fame. No wonder it became Star-Moon Kingdom's mythical Guild." Evil Fire's fighting spirit soared as he watched Shi Feng.

"Evil, you need to think this through. If you fight Ye Feng, you'll most likely have to expose your trump cards. You'll have a tough time when you head to the Black Dragon Empire to challenge the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion," Unwavering Hand warned his companion.

"I understand. Don't worry. In any case, I have a match with Black Flame tomorrow. It'll be a fair contest if he knows about my abilities." Evil Fire smiled nonchalantly. He then approached the stage with long strides.

Evil Fire wore a suit of black scale armor. He also carried a dark-purple greatsword that was as tall as he was. Blue runes decorated the sword's blade. The surrounding Mana flowed towards the greatsword automatically, causing arcs of blue electricity to dance around the blade and crackle from time to time. Overall, Evil Fire looked like a Demonic Beast, his aura pulling an involuntary shiver from the audience.

With each step Evil Fire took, his aura grew slightly more intense. The audience felt a heavy pressure weigh down on them. Moreover, he had removed the concealment on his weapon and equipment's glow effect, as well as his level.

"Level 45?! How is this possible?! Even the number one player on the Black Dragon Empire's Ranking List is only Level 44 right now!"

"Strong! So strong! No wonder why these people dared to challenge Zero Wing! Zero Wing is in trouble!"

"Why does it feel like I should be running for my life when I look at him?"

"Crap! He has three pieces of Epic Equipment on him! The glow effect on his greatsword looks unique as well! What rank is that weapon?!"

The audience gasped when Evil Fire removed the concealment.

Evil Fire's items hadn't only stunned the independent players watching. Blackie and the others from Zero Wing were astonished as well. Evil Fire's equipment could already rival that of Fire Dance and Gentle Snow.

Shi Feng, however, didn't pay any mind to his opponent's equipment. Rather, the Berserker's dark-purple greatsword attracted his attention.

*Why does he have the Storm Warblade?* Shi Feng could not help his growing confusion.

The Storm Warblade was one of God's Domain's 36 Famed Swords. Moreover, it was a higher rank than the Sacred Sword, Killing Ray. The two-handed weapon ranked 14th among the 36 Famed Swords.

This greatsword had been very famous in the past. The weapon was the reason that the Sword God, Celestial Pole had become so famous. The weapon had made its debut when Celestial Pole had been a Tier 3 player. Celestial Pole had only switched to a different weapon after reaching Tier 6.

The fact that Celestial Pole had used the Storm Warblade until Tier 6 showed that the greatsword's Attributes were frighteningly high.

Yet, now, a player whom Shi Feng had never heard of wielded the Storm Warblade. It was baffling.

"Do you want a melee battle as well?" Shi Feng asked as he asked as Evil Fire stepped onto the stage.

"No. You are quite strong, strong enough to face me in an official duel," Evil Fire said, shaking his head. Proudly, he continued, "I don't want you to hold back. Otherwise, the battle will end too quickly."

Although Shi Feng had already displayed overwhelming power, it didn't affect Evil Fire. Evil Fire was still confident that it wasn't possible for him to lose.

"Sure." Shi Feng then sent Evil Fire a duel request.

Following which, the timer above the stage began to count down.