

Strongest

Chapter 1327 – Impossible Competition

As the system announced the duel's victor, silence fell over the tournament hall, followed by the gasps.

"What's going on? Hadn't the Berserker, Evil Fire, had the advantage?"

"Are those two monsters? They are so fast! I didn't even have time to react!"

"Is this a fight between peak experts?"

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The sudden reversal and end of the duel befuddled the ordinary players present. However, some of the experts who had watched the match had a rough understanding of what had happened.

Although it was impossible for the naked eye to keep up with Shi Feng and Evil Fire's fight, they could watch the recording in slow motion, gaining a clear view of what had occurred.

"Evil Fire's Attributes can definitely rival that of a Tier 3 Great Lord. If we fought, he'd most likely annihilate our 100-man team, yet he couldn't block Ye Feng's attacks. Just how strong is Ye Feng?"

"Is Zero Wing a Guild of monsters?"

Unlike ordinary players, expert players could judge a player's strength accurately. Hence, they were aware of how powerful Evil Fire was. The Berserker was definitely a peak expert, an existence they looked up to and sought to become.

Yet, Ye Feng so easily defeated such an expert. The spectating experts even began to wonder if they had made a mistake in their judgment of Evil Fire's strength.

Meanwhile, among those present, no one was more excited about the outcome than Zero Wing's members.

Zero Wing's members looked at Shi Feng with reverence.

The Guild's many consecutive losses had frustrated them. However, they hadn't been able to do anything about it. After all, the fighters they had dispatched were Guild experts. If not even the Guild experts were a match were Evil Fire's group, then what hope did the elite and normal members have?

However, as soon as Shi Feng had ascended to the stage, he had turned the situation around. First, he had killed Mighty Tiger, today's reigning champion, in a single move. Then, he destroyed a monster like Evil fire in the blink of an eye.

Zero Wing's members were both stunned and exhilarated.

Meanwhile, the other Guilds' members, who had bad-mouthed Zero Wing, had fallen mute.

“Just who is this guy?! Even our team leader has to dodge Evil’s attacks when he uses Twofold Berserk and the Storm Warblade’s Skills, yet that guy faced him head on! Is he even a player? He can’t be an NPC in disguise, right?” Falling Flower stared at Shi Feng with wide eyes. No matter how many times she looked at the Swordsman, she could not believe the match’s outcome.

She had experienced Evil’s Storm Domain personally. Even ten yards away from Evil Fire, the tremendous pressure had suppressed her. If she moved any closer, she’d be lucky if she could use 50% of her Attack Speed and reaction speed.

“It seems Zero Wing is not as simple as we had thought. We’ll need to adjust our plans,” Unwavering Hand said somberly as he glanced at Shi Feng. “But first, we need to notify the team leader.”

The other group members nodded, wearing morose expressions.

They had planned to challenge the number one Guilds in the various kingdoms and empires to increase their adventurer team’s fame, yet before they had even challenged Zero Wing to an official match, Shi Feng had shut them down...

As soon as Evil Fire resurrected below the stage, he ran up to Shi Feng, who was descending the stairs.

“Do you have some business to discuss?” Shi Feng asked, smiling.

If Evil Fire had fought him before he had completed his Tier 2 promotion, he would have likely been forced to use Twofold Berserk and many of his trump cards. After all, despite looking like an unrefined savage, Evil Fire was a bona fide Flowing Water Realm expert. Zero Wing didn’t have a single expert, aside from himself, that had a chance of defeating the Berserker.

Reaching the Flowing Water Realm by the age of 20 was a miraculous feat. He would definitely be considered a genius in any superpower. If given enough time, Evil Fire could reach the apex of God’s Domain.

“I’d just like to say a few things. I lost this match. I won’t challenge Black Flame until I can defeat you. It won’t be long before I issue another challenge. I will win, and then I’ll challenge Black Flame to an honorable duel!” Confidence shown in Evil Fire’s eyes as he spoke with Shi Feng.

While he had suffered a miserable loss, he had gained just as much.

He had only recently obtained the Storm Warblade. He hadn’t had a lot of time to get used to the weapon. Most importantly, he was close to completing the fourth phase of an Epic Quest. After he visited the secret land and obtained the Skill that could counter Shi Feng’s godlike speed, he could definitely put up a good fight against the Swordsman.

“Challenge me?” Shi Feng could not help but laugh. “Allow me to refuse. I don’t have that much time on my hands.”

“What? Are you afraid?” Evil Fire ridiculed the Swordsman.

“You don’t have to provoke me. I really don’t have that much time,” Shi Feng said, chuckling as he shook his head. “If every person were like you and challenged me once every two or three days after their defeat, I might as well stop playing this game. If you really want to challenge me, I’ll make you a deal. Defeat either Flying Shadow or Shadow Sword. If you succeed, I’ll accept your challenge. How about it?”

“Are you kidding me? Although they are skilled, they can’t even beat Mighty Tiger, who’s just at the Refinement Realm. How could they possibly defeat me?” Evil Fire growled angrily.

“I don’t mean right now. Seven days. In seven days, you can challenge either one of them. As long as you defeat one, I’ll accept your challenge,” Shi Feng said, laughing. “If you don’t feel up to it, you can always give up. It’d be easier for me.”

“Seven days?” Evil Fire gave Shi Feng a cold look. “You think they can grow strong enough to defeat me in just seven days? What a joke.”

“Since you don’t believe me, why don’t we make a bet?” Shi Feng offered as he turned to the distant Flying Shadow and Shadow Sword. “If you defeat either of them in seven days, you’ll win. If not, I will. If you win, you can tell me to do one thing. If I win, you’ll have to do something for me. What do you think?”

“If I win, I’ll make you leave Zero Wing. Are you willing to do that?” Evil Fire said, scoffing.

“Of course.” Shi Feng nodded seriously.

“Fine. You better not regret this.” Evil Fire glanced at Flying Shadow and Shadow Sword. Although he did not know what kind of tricks Shi Feng was trying to play, those two wouldn’t be able to defeat him in God’s Domain even if they had another ten years to train.

As Evil Fire left, Aqua Rose walked over to Shi Feng.

“Guild Leader, have you lost your mind?” Aqua Rose said, clearly angry. In her eyes, Shi Feng was simply too irresponsible. He had actually agreed to such a bet. What if he lost? “You are fully aware of how strong Evil Fire is. Snow is likely the only one, aside from you, with the strength to fight that man. Even Fire would be forced to run and dodge if he used Twofold Berserk. Although Flying Shadow and Shadow Sword have improved very quickly, they are still a long way from reaching the Refinement Realm. How can they possibly defeat Evil Fire in seven days?”

“Relax. God created the world in seven days; I should be able to do this much,” Shi Feng said, chuckling at Aqua Rose’s wrath.

Evil Fire was a bona fide genius. Although he had not heard about the Berserker in the past, with Evil Fire’s status as an independent player, it would be a huge waste not to poach such a talent.

If he wanted to recruit a prideful expert like Evil Fire, this was the quickest and most effective method.

It might’ve been impossible to train Flying Shadow and Shadow Sword to defeat Evil Fire in just seven days before, but the situation had changed.

Seeing Shi Feng’s confident smile, Aqua Rose could not help but sigh and give up her attempt to persuade him.

All she could do now was assign as many resources as possible to Flying Shadow and Shadow Sword, helping them improve as much as possible.

Once the duel had ended and everyone prepared to leave the tournament hall, Shi Feng walked onto the stage once more. Immediately, he attracted everyone’s attention.

“What? Is there going to be another match?”

“The money I spent to watch today’s fights were worth every Coin!”

Everyone grew excited when they saw Shi Feng on the stage. Although the majority of these players couldn’t keep up with battles between experts of Shi Feng’s level, such fights were an eye-opener.

“Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for coming to watch the competition today. On behalf of Zero Wing, I have two announcements. Starting tomorrow, Zero Wing’s Candlelight Trading Firm will sell a limited number of Stone Forest Town’s private houses each day. Zero Wing has also activated the Private House Upgrade System. From now on, owners can upgrade their houses!”

The players in the venue gasped and cheered like raving lunatics. Many of those present contacted their companions to convey the shocking news.

The news spread like the plague, causing a commotion throughout Star-Moon Kingdom.

Chapter 1328 – Kingdom in an Uproar

Shortly after Shi Feng had made his announcement, a commotion erupted on the Star-Moon Kingdom’s forums.

“What? Zero Wing is selling private houses again?”

“Even when I offered 1,000 Gold, no one was willing to sell their houses. Now that Zero Wing has finally decided to sell more, I have to get one.”

“Stone Forest Town will most likely become even more popular. I’ve heard that the adventurer teams with private houses have improved considerably since the purchase. These teams have almost cleared out the rare tools sold in Stone Forest Town.”

“Wonderful! Our adventurer wasn’t able to attend the previous auction. This time, we’ll get our own private house!”

“Players are going to fight over Stone Forest Town’s houses. I hadn’t expected Zero Wing to activate the Private House Upgrade System. It really makes you wonder how Zero Wing did it.”

“I’ve looked it up. Currently, Stone Forest Town’s private houses are only 1-star. After one upgrade, each house can register another ten players. These ten players can then teleport to and from the house, although it does have a one-day Cooldown. The house’s owner can teleport without a Cooldown.”

“This won’t do! I need to go borrow some money right away!”

Initially, everyone was overjoyed to hear that Zero Wing had decided to sell more of Stone Forest Town’s houses. However, after gaining a clearer understanding of the Private House Upgrade System, many adventurer teams began to look at the houses as potential gold mines.

After the upgrade system activated, these private houses seemed tailor-made for the various adventurer teams. Now, by owning one of these private houses, an adventurer team could explore further and return an entire team to Stone Forest Town at a moment's notice, enjoying the town's various benefits.

Stone Forest Town wasn't the least bit inferior to Red Iron Town, which Heaven's Burial developed with everything it had.

Ever since Heaven's Burial had gained access to Evernight City, it had established Evernight City's teleportation array in a high-resource map not far from Red Iron Town.

Now that a Guild had gained access to Evernight City, it was much easier for players to venture to the city. Players only needed to complete some corresponding quests to gain access themselves. Later, they could travel between Red Iron Town and Evernight City easily. Players would be able to reach high-level and high-resource maps relatively quickly.

The only downside was that, unless one was a member of Heaven's Burial or owned a private house in Red Iron Town, they could only teleport from Evernight City to Red Iron Town, not the other way around.

Even so, Red Iron Town grew steadily. Wandering merchants had already begun to visit the town. Meanwhile, Heaven's Burial's private houses were much cheaper than Stone Forest Town's. This tempted many independent experts and adventurer teams to invest.

As long as they bought a house in Red Iron Town, their development would be reliant on Heaven's Burial.

Furthermore, Heaven's Burial would undoubtedly construct teleportation arrays connected to Evernight City in other towns in the future. Using Evernight City as a waypoint, players could then freely teleport to any of Heaven's Burial's Guild Towns.

This would be very convenient.

Many players considered purchasing a house in Red Iron Town.

However, after Zero Wing's announcement, the various adventurer teams in Star-Moon Kingdom changed their minds. After all, Stone Forest Town was now far stronger than Red Iron Town.

For a time, even adventuring teams in Star-Moon Kingdom's neighboring kingdoms and empires were tempted as they secretly collected funds.

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Only two players occupied a secluded bar in the Apocalypse Empire's capital. One was a man, and the other was a woman. The man had a dignified appearance, and although he seemed young and well-groomed, there was a look in his eyes that spoke of a variety of life experiences. He was clearly older than he looked. As for the woman, to put it simply, she was an absolute beauty. She had long, flowing hair that fell to her thin waist, and her every action could easily mesmerize both men and women.

Two glasses of purplish-red wine had been placed before these players. Despite being untouched, Mana constantly gathered around the purplish-red liquid. The liquid also gave off a faint red glow, giving it an attractive appearance. Its aroma could make anyone salivate, tempting them to drink it.

If Shi Feng were present, he'd be shocked to see this wine.

The wine within the two glasses was none other than one of the Apocalypse Empire's Five Great Wines, Tears of Purgatory. Not just anyone could obtain this beverage. It would only be awarded to those who obtained the key to the Purgatory Barrier and cleared it. Although Tears of Purgatory wasn't as effective as Soul Water, it wasn't far off either.

In the past, wine collecting players had even been willing to pay 1,000 Gold to purchase a single bottle.

However, Shi Feng would be more surprised to see the woman at the bar, the Midnight Tea Party's vice commander, Endless Scars.

"Old Ghost Heartless, why did you come looking for me so suddenly?" Endless Scars asked the man looking to be in his thirties across from her. Smiling faintly, she continued, "Or are you here to tell me that your apprentice has lost?"

"Little girl, why do you insist on calling me Old Ghost? Am I really that old?" Heartless Sword rolled his eyes.

"Well? I'm right, aren't I? Zero Wing isn't as simple as you assume." Endless Scars paid no attention to Heartless Sword's grumbling. "Since your apprentice, Evil Fire, has lost, according to our agreement, I am allowed to invite Black Flame to join our operation, yes?"

"This doesn't count. Ye Feng defeated Evil Fire, not Black Flame," Heartless Sword said, shaking his head.

"Old Ghost, do you really think that your apprentice can defeat Black Flame, Star-Moon Kingdom's publicly-acknowledged, number one expert?" Endless Scars said, chuckling. "Or do you think that one defeat isn't enough?"

Heartless Sword turned pale when he heard Endless Scars's comment. He had seen the battle video himself. The gap between the fighters' strength was incredibly massive. Even if Black Flame weren't as strong as Ye Feng, they couldn't be that different.

"Forget it. I give up. I won't continue to argue with you. I'll agree to your request," Heartless Sword helplessly gave in to Endless Scars's demand. "However, I'm not the only one involved. You'll have to get the others' approval as well. Although, I doubt that they'll agree."

"You don't have to worry about that. As long as you agree, I can easily convince the others to fall in line," Endless Scars said, smiling. She then finished her Tears of Purgatory before leaving the bar.

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Meanwhile, in Heaven's Burial's Residence in Star-Moon City, an uproar shook the Guild.

"Damnable Zero Wing! They dare to ruin my good fortune!" Singular Burial cursed as he read the latest statistics report on Red Iron Town.

He could've made a fortune by selling Red Iron Town's private houses. He could then use the money to support the Guild's development. Now, however, Zero Wing had ruined his plans. Initially, he had over 400 interested buyers. Now, less than half remained...

"Guild Leader, should we lower the price a little?" Daybreak Fog suggested.

Currently, they sold the town's houses for between 300 and 400 Gold. If they dropped the price to between 200 and 300 Gold, they should attract more buyers. After all, Stone Forest Town's private houses had already climbed to 1,000 Gold.

"No need! I had intended to let Zero Wing survive for a bit longer, but I've changed my mind! Notify Abandoned Wave immediately! We are going to teach Zero Wing who truly owns Star-Moon Kingdom!"