

Strongest

Chapter 1347 – Hero Time

Currently, Gilbert stood quietly inside the Guild Hall with both his eyes shut. His three-meter-tall body was unmatched by the other NPCs. As he stood before the Guild Flag, he looked just like a god of war preventing all enemies from approaching the Guild Flag.

*Is this the Hero the Guild Leader was talking about? Aqua Rose was somewhat astonished as she looked at Gilbert. What a powerful aura!*

Although the Tier 3 NPCs she encountered before were terrifyingly strong, she had not felt suffocating pressure from them.

As for Gilbert, rather than calling him an NPC, he was more like a prehistoric beast.

...

“Damn it! Why does Zero Wing still possess a Tier 3 NPC?!”

Abandoned Wave’s expression darkened considerably when he spotted Gilbert standing inside the Guild Hall.

In order to prevent the Tier 3 adventurer NPCs from coming to assist in the defense, he had mobilized all the surviving Grand Lord ranked Evil Beasts in a desperate effort to pin down those NPCs. He had even stationed several Great Lord ranked Evil Demons nearby to find an opportunity to attack. Only with this did he manage to block all 30 Tier 3 NPC adventurers from reaching Zero Wing’s Residence.

He never imagined that Zero Wing would still be hiding a trump card even at such a crucial moment, allowing Stone Forest Town to gain a moment of reprieve.

One hit!

He needed his monsters to land only one hit to destroy the Guild Flag!

Once the Guild Flag was destroyed, Stone Forest Town would become a monster town.

“If it were 30 Tier 3 NPCs working together to defend the Guild Flag, I might really need to put in some more effort. However, Black Flame, you are overestimating yourself if you think one Tier 3 NPC is enough to defend the Guild Flag!” Abandoned Wave sneered. He then manipulated the gray orb in his hand and started chanting an incantation.

Suddenly, over a dozen figures hidden in the monster army leaped forward, leaving afterimages trailing behind them.

By the time Zero Wing's members noticed these figures, the latter had already broken through the blockade and appeared in the Guild Residence's surroundings. They then smashed through its walls and dashed straight towards the Guild Hall.

The true identity of these figures were Evil Demons. However, unlike the Evil Demons that attempted to assault the Guild Flag before, this group of Evil Demons was much stronger.

"Not good! There are Great Lord ranked Evil Demons mixed in among them! We need to stop them!" Aqua Rose, who was defending inside the Guild Hall, hurriedly activated the Power of Darkness and used the Tier 1 Spell Shadow Vines.

Suddenly, hundreds of blue vines emerged from around Aqua Rose's feet and slithered rapidly towards the approaching Evil Demons.

"A futile struggle!" Abandoned Wave sneered upon seeing this.

The sixteen Evil Demons were the strongest force he had remaining—eleven High Lords and five Great Lords. Even a party of Tier 3 NPCs would have a hard time facing such a force, not to mention a measly Tier 1 Cursemaner like Aqua Rose.

In the next moment, the Evil Demons could be seen dodging all the oncoming Shadow Vines.

*What quick reaction speeds!* Aqua Rose was surprised.

She had aimed all her Shadow Vines at the blind spots of these Evil Demons. Yet, as if they had long since sensed her attack, not only did the Evil Demons perfectly avoid being bound, but they had even managed to close the distance between them and the Guild Flag even further.

"Finish it!"

Through the eyes of one of the Evil Demons, Abandoned Wave could see the Guild Flag that was just 30 yards away.

In the next moment, the sixteen Evil Demons charged at the Guild Flag from various directions. With this, even if two or three Tier 3 melee NPCs worked together, they wouldn't be able to stop every one of the Evil Demons.

"Are we going to lose, just like this?" Aqua Rose's eyes were filled with frustration as she looked at the Evil Demons approaching the Guild Flag.

The town they had invested plenty of resources into was going to disappear, just like that...

The sixteen Evil Demons could be seen rapidly closing in on the Guild Flag.

Twenty yards... Fifteen yards...

At this moment, the Evil Demons had even stopped evading the attacks sent at them by the players inside the hall, focused solely on reaching and destroying the Guild Flag.

Just when the Evil Demons were only ten yards away from the Guild Flag, Gilbert, who had his eyes shut all this time, opened them and let loose a deafening roar. Even the people outside the Guild Hall heard his roar very clearly.

In the next moment, the sixteen Evil Demons involuntarily turned towards Gilbert—as if nothing but Gilbert existed in their world at this moment.

The Barbarian class's Tier 3 Legacy Skill Barbaric Roar!

The Skill immediately enveloped a radius of 50 yards. Unlike other Taunt Skills, Barbaric Roar was more of a Domain Skill. All enemies caught within the range of the Domain would find their minds filled with only Gilbert's existence. At the same time, due to the deterrent effect of Gilbert's voice, all enemies within range would have their Movement Speed, Attack Speed, and reaction speed reduced by 50%.

Following the activation of Barbaric Roar, Gilbert pulled out his blood-red greatsword, which he had stabbed into the ground, and lightly swung it at the approaching Evil Demons.

If one was watching from afar, one would think that Gilbert's Attack Speed at this moment was very slow. However, if one paid close attention, they would realize that Gilbert's Attack Speed was not slow at all. Instead, the extreme speed and fluidity of his attack had merely given rise to a misconception.

Although the sixteen Evil Demons tried to block the approaching crimson streak of light, they suddenly found their bodies unable to move. The only thing they could do was watch as the streak of light landed on their bodies.

Tier 3 Legacy Skill Barbaric Blade.

Although the Skill executed an extremely normal slash, it rendered all the surrounding enemies immobile. Meanwhile, pitch-black spatial tears would appear one after another wherever the crimson light passed. The might of the attack was so powerful that it even sliced space itself.

After the greatsword passed through the Evil Demons, all sixteen Evil Demons left behind afterimages as they went flying out of the Guild Hall like cannonballs.

The High Lord ranked Evil Demons lost over one-third of their HPs on the spot. The destructive power of the attack made everyone present gasp.

*So strong! The power of this attack should be practically Tier 4 standard!* Aqua Rose wore an incredulous look on her face as she stared at Gilbert.

Even Tier 3 NPCs were just barely able to cope with a Great Lord ranked Evil Demon in a one-on-one; at least two of such NPCs were needed to suppress a Great Lord. Yet, now, Gilbert had managed to send five Great Lord ranked Evil Demons flying with a single blow. This was simply unbelievable.

"He stopped them?! How is this possible?! How can there be such a powerful Tier 3 NPC in existence?!" Abandoned Wave nearly fainted when he saw this scene.

He had been watching through the eyes of one of the sixteen Evil Demons, so he had clearly seen the speed and power of Gilbert's attack. Not to mention dodging the attack, even blocking it was utterly impossible. Gilbert was far stronger than the Tier 3 NPCs from before. They were on entirely different levels.

Before Abandoned Wave could react, Gilbert took a step forward. In the next moment, he disappeared from where he stood. Immediately after, he appeared in front of one of the Great Lord ranked Evil

Demons. Before anyone realized it, Gilbert had already thrust his greatsword through the Great Lord's body. Meanwhile, only after its body was stabbed did the Evil Demon realize it had been attacked.

Gilbert's strength was simply overwhelming.

As for the other Evil Demons, due to the effects of Barbaric Roar, they couldn't approach the Guild Flag at all without killing Gilbert first.

As time passed, although many more monsters entered the Guild Hall, due to the effects of Barbaric Roar, these monsters had no choice but to fight Gilbert. However, not only was Gilbert himself frighteningly strong, but there was also a Tier 2 NPC Cleric healing him from the side. The monsters failed to pose any threat to Gilbert whatsoever.

In regard to this situation, Shi Feng did not feel particularly surprised.

There naturally was a reason why the various large Guilds had coveted Heroes in the past. Back then, towns and cities under a Hero's protection had rarely fallen to enemy invasion.

Although a Tier 3 Hero could not compete with an Archaic Species of the same rank and tier in terms of Basic Attributes, in terms of combat standards, a Tier 3 Hero was many times superior to the ordinary experts of God's Domain. After taking into account the Legacy Skills they grasped, a Hero was the most suitable kind of NPC to defend a Guild Residence.

Over time, the number of Evil Beasts and Evil Demons could be seen decreasing continuously.

...

"Is this Zero Wing's true strength? This town's defenses are simply too strong! Such a powerful monster army actually failed to capture it! With this, which Guild could possibly threaten Stone Forest Town?"

Everyone was filled with astonishment as they looked at the rapidly thinning monster army.

After this war, most likely, no Guild in Star-Moon Kingdom would dare have designs on Stone Forest Town. At the same time, Stone Forest Town would also enter a new era of prosperity.

...

"We lost?" Abandoned Wave's eyes were filled with mixed feelings as he looked at his servants decreasing precipitately in number.

At this moment, whether it was the Evil Beast army or the Evil Demon army, the top combatants of both had already been annihilated. Right now, even without the presence of NPCs like Gilbert or the Tier 3 adventurers, Zero Wing's remaining members were more than enough to defend the Guild Flag.

"I'll give this win to you, Zero Wing. However, don't get excited too soon. Although I've lost my Evil Beasts and Evil Demons, I can still make more. You all, on the other hand, won't be as fortunate next time." Abandoned Wave knew that he had been thoroughly defeated this time. However, he was confident that with enough time, he could create a monster army that was several times stronger than the current one. Meanwhile, as long as Zero Wing lost Stone Forest Town, it would decline into a second-rate power. "Flame Blood, I'm afraid Heaven's Burial will have to get busy for the upcoming period."

“Rest assured, although Star-Moon City’s resources have nearly dried up, there are still plenty of resources available in other cities and kingdoms.” Flame Blood smiled and nodded. Although Zero Wing’s performance today was indeed shocking, Heaven’s Burial remained in the shadows while Zero Wing stood in the light. Heaven’s Burial could easily help Abandoned Wave create more Evil Beasts and Evil Demons while Zero Wing could only wait for its impending doom.

The reason for their loss this time was their lack of understanding of Zero Wing as well as their lack of preparation. However, it would be a different story next time.

Following which, Abandoned Wave and Flame Blood turned around and left.

...

Meanwhile, standing inside one of Stone Forest Town’s Magic Towers, Shi Feng was quietly observing the image displayed on the massive crystal ball before him.

“I’ve finally found you. An Evil God Envoy?” Shi Feng muttered, his lips curling upwards as he looked at the image of the bandaged Abandoned Wave. “No. The Evil Energy surrounding him is too thin. An Evil God Envoy has received the blessing of the Evil God. Even if he used a treasure to suppress the Evil Energy, it should not be this thin. Perhaps an Evil God Apostle developed by an Envoy? Forget it. Let’s just go and take a look.”

Saying so, Shi Feng locked in the coordinates and used Space Movement. Suddenly, he vanished from the top of the Magic Tower.

Chapter 1348 – Black Flame Appears

With the death of the high-tiered Evil Beasts and Evil Demons, the war in Stone Forest Town gradually entered its final stage.

Previously, Star-Moon Kingdom’s various major powers had celebrated this sudden war, but their expressions had turned solemn. Fear of Zero Wing filled their hearts.

An army of 500,000-plus high-level, high-ranked monsters...

Who in Star-Moon Kingdom could possibly stop such a powerful force?

Zero Wing had done just that. Moreover, Zero Wing had displayed horrific strength. Aside from the Tier 3 NPC army, the Intermediate Mana Pulse Cannons and Miniature Ballistas were more than enough to dishearten the kingdom’s major powers. If these weapons were aimed at their Guild towns, the consequences would be dire.

Before this battle, the major powers had only felt a little threatened by Zero Wing’s number of experts and high-quality items. However, those aspects couldn’t threaten their lifeblood. If worse comes to worst, they would fight a war of attrition, competing with wealth and resources. But things had changed.

Zero Wing had already revealed that it had the power to destroy any large Guild’s foundation in Star-Moon Kingdom. A battle of attrition wasn’t necessary. Zero Wing could simply cripple their Guilds.

...

“Zero Wing... How much of your strength have you hidden?” Singular Burial felt as if he had aged several years as he stared at the live-stream, especially when the Hero Gilbert had made his appearance in the war’s final moments.

Singular Burial admitted that Heaven’s Burial’s development was quite fast. However, compared to Zero Wing...

The difference between them was like heaven and earth.

Now, the only thing worth celebrating was that Heaven’s Burial had gained access into Evernight City before the other Guild. There was also the fact that Abandoned Wave could continue to create monster armies. Only, now that they had revealed the threat of the Evil Beasts and Evil Demons, Abandoned Wave wouldn’t be able to continue developing in the Star-Moon City region.

...

Meanwhile, across the street from Zero Wing’s Residence in White River City, Ghost Shadow and Daybreak Fog scouted the building from their seats in a restaurant’s fifth-floor room. As the two watched Zero Wing’s Residence, they wore helpless expressions.

The original plan had involved the Ghost Shadow Legion and the Third Legion working together to assault Zero Wing’s Residence, doing whatever it took to destroy the Guild’s Stable. However, due to the war over in Stone Forest Town, the Zero Wing members that had been grinding monsters and raiding Dungeons had returned to the Residence. As a result, the building was protected by more than three times the members they had expected...

Hence, they could only watch the building, waiting for these Guild members to leave for Stone Forest Town. However, since the war had started, the number of players in the Residence had increased rather than decrease.

Moreover, now that victory was in sight for Zero Wing, more players had swarmed to the Guild to apply. Among them were plenty of famous adventurer teams that both Ghost Shadow and DAYbreak Fog recognized.

...

Meanwhile, in the wilderness outside of Stone Forest Town, Abandoned Wave and Flame Blood quickly made their way towards the Dead Soul Forest atop their Mounts.

“Brother Wave, you’re saying that I qualify to join the Evil God’s Temple?” Flame Blood asked excitedly, his eyes practically glowing as he looked at Abandoned Wave.

“Of course. Although it is very difficult for players to join the Evil God’s Temple, and there are very few left available, Beast Emperor has declared that players with sufficient strength and a powerful backer will have the opportunity to join. However, the final decision rests in Beast Emperor’s hands. He only has

a few slots remaining. Fortunately, since you are one of Heaven's Burial's upper echelons, you should have a high chance of getting one of those slots," Abandoned Wave said, nodding. "I refuse to believe that we can't take Zero Wing down if we work together once you become an Evil God Apostle as well."

"Then I'll have to thank you for recommending me, Brother Wave. As long as I become an Evil God Apostle, the Guild Leader won't hesitate to give us his full support. We might even be able to take down the Black Dragon Empire, much less Star-Moon Kingdom," Flame Blood said excitedly.

Before this, he hadn't been particularly interested in becoming an Evil God Apostle and joining the dark forces. After all, the cost to do so was high. Joining the dark forces meant joining humanity's enemy. Henceforth, it wouldn't be so easy to enter an NPC city. He'd also forsake the lifestyle ordinary players enjoyed. Moreover, if the various large Guilds discovered him, they'd hunt him to the ends of God's Domain.

If he died, the consequences would be unimaginably severe as well. If he were caught, the result would be worse. His only option would be to delete his account and start over.

However, after coming into contact with Abandoned Wave and witnessing the power of an Evil God Apostle, he had begun to reconsider his position. It might even help him achieve heights that were previously out of his reach.

Unfortunately, Abandoned Wave had tactfully rejected his previous request to join the Evil God's Temple. He hadn't expected the man to change his mind.

"Relax. I now have a clear grasp of Heaven's Burial's foundations. Moreover, I just received a message from Beast Emperor requesting to meet you, stating that he has sent a subordinate to fetch you," Abandoned Wave said, chuckling.

While Abandoned Wave and Flame Blood chatted, a spatial tear appeared above them. It quickly widened, forming a black hole, and a figure emerged.

"Black Flame!"

"How is he here?!"

Abandoned Wave and Flame Blood stared at the figure. They were extremely familiar with this player as he was their main target.

"I've finally found you. Why are you in such a rush to leave?" Shi Feng asked as he softly landed on the grassy ground. He wore a smile as he pinned Abandoned Wave and Flame Blood with his gaze. Both wore Black Cloaks, so he couldn't get a clear view of their appearances and Levels. However, he could sense their tension. This was especially true for the bandaged Abandoned Wave.

He knew that the previous monster invasion had been the Evil God's Temple's doing, but even after using the Magic Tower, he hadn't been able to locate the person responsible. This time, however, he used the Magic Tower to search for the culprits during the entire battle. Thanks to the magic array that had summoned the Evil Demons, he had gained a general idea of the culprit's location.

Honestly, Shi Feng had been shocked to learn of the Evil God's Temple's appearance in Star-Moon Kingdom. The Evil God's Temple might not be a threat early on, but if it were not exterminated in time, not even two or three Super Guilds would be able to take it down, much less Zero Wing.

Now that he had found a clue leading to the Evil God's Temple, he couldn't ignore it.

"I had never expected the almighty Guild Leader, Black Flame, to grace us with his presence. To what do we owe the pleasure?" Abandoned Wave asked, trying to look like a passerby. At the same time, he sent the Beast Emperor a message, notifying him of Shi Feng's arrival and requesting reinforcements.

Black Flame's strength was known throughout Star-Moon Kingdom. He was the kingdom's bona fide, number one expert.

Although Abandoned Wave was confident of his own strength, he knew that he was far from powerful enough to defeat someone on Black Flame's level. Working with Flame Blood wouldn't change that.

Of course, were his high-tiered Evil Demons still alive, he'd have no reason to fear Black Flame. He'd even be confident of killing the man.

"Are you trying to suggest that you're not connected to the Evil God's Temple with how dense the Evil Energy surrounding you is?" Shi Feng demanded. "Well? Are you going to reveal the temple's headquarters? If not, I can simply drag you to the War God's Temple. I'm sure you don't need me to tell you about the consequences of being captured."

Although the Evil God's Temple's followers had far more power than any ordinary player, they had to pay a corresponding price. One death was enough to drive these followers mad. If the War God's Temple captured them, their life would be hell."

Abandoned Wave's heart sank as he listened to Shi Feng.

He hadn't expected this man to know Evil God's Temple players' true fear.

*It's over! It's over! What should I do?!* Sweat dripped down Abandoned Wave's forehead as he watched Shi Feng's gradual approach. Neither keeping silent nor exposing the location of the Evil God's Temple's main headquarters was an option. Abandoned Wave had never expected that some minor character he had once looked down on would force him into such a situation.

When Shi Feng was less than 30 yards away from Abandoned Wave, a spatial tear formed before the bandaged player.

Suddenly, someone emerged from the tear. It was none other than the Beast Emperor, Abandoned Wave's leader.