

Strongest

Chapter 1481 – Challenging the King of Trees

“Why is it a Mythic monster?!”

“Is the system toying with us?!”

When everyone saw the colossal tree looming over 100 meters above them, their relaxed, confident expressions vanished.

Even Quiet Melody, a Vice Temple Master from the Super Guild, Sacred Temple, could not help her grim expression.

...

[King of Trees] (Plant Lifeform, Mythic)

Level 60

HP 600,000,000/600,000,000

...

Just looking at the King of Trees sent shivers down her spine. Even before the fight began, the pressure of King of Trees' intense aura weighed down on her.

This was only the tip of the iceberg. What truly made her feel powerless was the thick tendrils extending from the treant's body.

The Grand Lord ranked Dryad they had previously faced had only wielded four tendrils, each possessing 60% of the Dryad's Strength, yet the King of Trees has 12 tendrils...

She wouldn't have worried if the tendrils had 60% of a Grand Lord's Strength, but against 60% of a Level 60 Mythic monster's, even Tier 3 summoned creatures would be defenseless, much less players.

Moreover, a large number of Dryads accompanied the King of Trees. At a glance, Quiet Melody counted over 200 Dryads, including six Grand Lords and 60 Great Lords. All of the Dryads were clustered together, so attacking one might lure the whole group.

Even Phoenix Rain and Quiet Melody, who had survived countless raids and battles, couldn't help their despair.

"Rain, let's give up on the King of Trees. It's simply too powerful. We can't raid that Boss right now," Quiet Melody advised her friend, who had been silent all this time. "We still have plenty of time left. We can raid other Dryad nests. We don't need to waste our time here."

The best part about Historical Sites was their plethora of treasure-laden locations. Although the quantity and quality of treasures they would find in other Dryad nests couldn't compare to those in the Sunset Shrine, they'd walk away with far more than what'd they'd find in a 100-man Hell Mode Team Dungeon.

"I understand," Phoenix Rain responded, reluctance filling her eyes as she watched the King of Trees; she knew that trying to fight that thing would be suicidal. Not even the numerous trump cards she had prepared would help her against the Mythic ranked King of Trees. Immediately, she issued a command in the team chat, "Everyone, rest up. Scouting parties, continue your search for other Dryad nest."

Just as the scouting parties prepared to head out in search, Shi Feng shouted, "Hold on a minute!"

"Does he have a plan?" Phoenix Rain could not help but turn towards the Swordsman.

"How can he? The surrounding, high-tiered Dryads will be difficult enough to clear out, not to mention the King of Trees. Not even six Tier 3 summoned creatures can hold up against the Boss's tendrils. Without anyone tanking the tendrils, it'll only be a matter of time before we're annihilated," Quiet Melody argued.

While she acknowledged that they had only made it this far so easily thanks to Shi Feng's leadership and ingenuity, she couldn't bring herself to believe that they had a chance against the King of Trees. Compared to the three Dryad nests they had already exterminated, raiding the King of Trees would be a nightmare. The Boss wasn't a foe that they could defeat with good leadership and strategy. They also needed to be strong enough, and it was obvious that their team wasn't.

"I'll admit, I didn't expect the King of Trees to be a Mythic monster. However, it isn't exactly impossible to defeat. I just need to adjust my original plan," Shi Feng explained. He, too, was surprised to see the Boss's Mythic rank. When he had come here in his previous life, the King of Trees had only been a Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species with a unique bloodline. This time, however, the raid would be twice as difficult.

The King of Trees was also set to face a team of 1,000 players. Although its Strength was no match for the Titan Warrior's, it had far more HP. It would undoubtedly be more difficult to raid just due to its battle recovery, which would heal it for 6,000,000 HP every five seconds.

*The Boss is a Mythic monster, yet he only needs to adjust his plan to defeat it?* For a moment, Quiet Melody wondered if she had heard wrong.

She had encountered Mythic ranked Bosses before, and she was certain that they were invincible to current players. Without siege weapons and disregarding all cost, the team had zero chances of defeating a Mythic Boss. Unfortunately, Historical Sites were similar to Dungeons in that siege weapons were prohibited.

Otherwise, the various large Guilds wouldn't suffer such massive headaches when dealing with 100-man Hell Mode and super-large-scale Team Dungeons.

"Whatever plan you have in mind, tell us. If we have any hope, we'll give it a try." Although Phoenix Rain doubted their chances of defeating the King of Trees, she knew Shi Feng's personality. The man had never lied to her, so she was inclined to listen to him before dismissing his ideas. In any case, it was better than outright giving up.

"Rain! You...!" Quiet Melody was at a loss for words when she saw the slightly excited expression on Phoenix Rain's face. "Fine! Do whatever you want! But we're only giving it one try! If we fail, we'll search for other Dryad nests."

How could a Mythic monster possibly be an easy foe? Even the various superpowers in God's Domain were utterly helpless against these monsters. They were all forced to take the long way around when they found one. If it were possible to raid Mythic monsters, they would've started their raids on the super-large-scale Team Dungeons already.

“Mhm, thank you,” Phoenix Rain offered. Quiet Melody was only helping her as a good friend and hadn’t asked for any payment for the work. If the woman didn’t want to do something, she wouldn’t force her. Unfortunately, if Quiet Melody decided not to participate in the fight against the King of Trees, the team would lose a large fraction of its firepower.

“Before this, I’d like to sign a new contract, Phoenix Pavilion Master. Our previous agreement didn’t include a Mythic ranked Final Boss,” Shi Feng said as he handed Phoenix Rain a new contract.

Most of the contents hadn’t changed. Zero Wing would still obtain 20% of the harvest. The only difference was that after the raid, Zero Wing would have priority when choosing five items from the Sunset Shrine.

While Shi Feng could ignore the treasures a Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species guarded, it was a different story for items under a Mythic monster’s protection.

“Renew our contract?” Phoenix Rain read through the new contract. Shortly after, she said, “I don’t have any problems with this as long as we clear the Sunset Shrine.”

Although Shi Feng’s demands were high, it was much better than leaving empty-handed.

Each of the three Dryad nests they had already raided had contained over 100 precious items, excluding the material stashes in each nest. Needless to say, the Sunset Shrine hid far more items of even higher quality.

Following which, the two players signed the contract.

Once Shi Feng ensured that everything was in order, he began to pull Flame Potions from his bag.

Normally, players had very little use for these potions. Moreover, they weren't meant to be consumed. Rather, they acted as a type of chemical bomb. The Flame Potions only had one purpose: weakening Plant Lifeforms. The effects could also stack up to 100 times, reducing the targeted Plant Lifeform's Attributes, Defense, and Resistances by 30% and increasing the damage from fire-type attacks by 100%.

After two days of grinding, Aqua Rose and the others had gathered 100 Flame Potions.

The Flame Potions hadn't been particularly valuable in the past, but once the public had discovered the Sunset Forest, their prices had skyrocketed. They had become a priceless tool for dealing with Plant Lifeforms.

After distributing the potions, Shi Feng had everyone lure the Dryads around the King of Trees, quickly eliminating the mobs.

Without the threats around the Boss, Shi Feng delegated tasks.

"Assassins, when the raid begins, toss these Flame Potions at the Boss. For those controlling the six summoned creatures, try to block as many of the Boss's tendrils as possible. Ranged players, use your Spells and Skills instead of normal attacks as much as possible. Melee players, stay away from the summoned creatures and find opportunities to strike. MTs, split into six-man groups. Each group will tank one main tendril and should have only two MTs with active Berserk and Lifesaving Skills at a time," Shi Feng instructed.

After a few minutes of planning, the Assassins and MTs nervously moved into position. Lifeless Thorn and his companions from Asura were particularly anxious. They were already familiar with a Mythic monster's prowess. Without a magic array to weaken the Boss, it could instant-kill any player.

“Team Leader Ye Feng, everyone is in position,” Phoenix Rain reported.

“Good! Nine, begin the raid!” Shi Feng commanded.

#### Chapter 1482 – Frightening Tier 4 Spell

Hearing Shi Feng’s command, Solitary Nine took another look at the towering treant before him before lifting his shield and charging at the creature.

“Is it really okay to let him start the raid by himself?” Phoenix Rain asked worriedly as she watched Solitary Nine approach the King of Trees. “Shouldn’t we send someone to assist him and split the damage?”

Solitary Nine looked like an ant before the King of Trees, and the difference between their Attributes was just as massive. Even a Tier 3 summoned creature would sustain heavy injuries and lose a good portion of its Attributes if struck by all twelve of the Boss’s tendrils, not to mention a peak MT.

“No. Nine is more than strong enough for this task,” Shi Feng said, chuckling.

Although the King of Trees’ rank had changed, its Skills and attack pattern wouldn’t differ. This Boss always used the Tier 3 Skill, Thorn Smash, on its first target.

This move could even wound a Tier 3 summoned creature of the same level, much less a player. Tier 3 summoned creatures were a precious source of combat power for the team right now, so they couldn't afford to risk them needlessly. In the past, teams had usually sent a player sacrifice to take on Thorn Smash before sending the MTs in.

Fortunately, Solitary Nine wielded the Epic ranked Titan Guard; they didn't need to waste combat power by sacrificing a player.

The moment the Shield Warrior moved within the King of Trees' 200-yard perception range, the Mythic monster's twelve tendrils transformed into sharp spears and shot towards Solitary Nine. The spears were so fast that they looked like twelve streaks of green light as they moved.

Thorn Smash!

*So fast!* The sudden attack surprised Solitary Nine, but Shi Feng had warned him to activate Titan's Will the moment he was within range.

When Titan's Will activated, golden, divine runes swam across Solitary Nine's body. The Shield Warrior's eyes had turned a dark-gold as well. Once Titan's Will took effect, Solitary Nine was able to shake off the King of Trees' mental pressure as he received a significant boost. Due to the upgrade to Epic rank, Titan's Will now reduced the damage he received by 90%. The Skill also increased his Attack Speed by 100% and Movement Speed by 30%. His starting Movement Speed was set to 80% of his maximum Movement Speed, and the Skill now lasted 20 seconds rather than 15.

Before the King of Trees' main tendrils reached Solitary Nine, he skillfully maneuvered his shield, leaving afterimages as it shifted before the Shield Warrior. Despite its relatively small size, the shield felt like a wall, enclosing Solitary Nine within. In the end, he fended off all twelve strikes.

*Boom... Boom... Boom...*



A series of explosions echoed throughout the forest, making the distant players' scalps tingle.

"He's still alive? How is this possible?!"

"He actually survived?!"

As the dust settled, it revealed Solitary Nine; the man hadn't moved an inch, and he still had roughly 10% of his HP.

*What destructive power!* Solitary Nine gasped when he realized that he still had 6,000 HP. Sure enough, current players have no hope against a Mythic monster.

Despite blocking every attack with his shield and the 90% damage reduction from Titan's Will, he had lost over 50,000 HP...

Even if he had activated a Lifesaving Skill, the attack would've killed him instantly if he hadn't activated Titan's Will.

Meanwhile, the King of Trees followed up with another tendril attack.

"Crap! Heal him!" Phoenix Rain hurriedly shouted.

Unfortunately, the team's healers were a little too slow; before they had begun to cast their spells, the tendril had reached Solitary Nine. However, with Titan's Will still in effect, Solitary Nine's shield moved as if it could teleport, appearing between the tendril and the Shield Warrior almost instantly.

*Peng!*

A crisp clang reverberated as Solitary Nine was forced to retreat by three steps before stabilizing himself. His HP decreased once again.

-3,208!

"Even after another hit, he's still alive?"

The watching players gaped at Solitary Nine.

Surviving a Mythic Boss's Skill was already impressive, yet he had only received a little over -3,000 damage after blocking a normal attack. His Defense was ridiculous.

Finally, the healers in the back responded and restored Solitary Nine to half of his total HP, yanking him out of the danger zone.

"Good! Everyone, move in!" Shi Feng commanded.

The six Tier 3 summoned creatures dashed forward. The Assassins, who had been in Stealth all this time, also dashed at the King of Trees. Once they were within 40 yards of the Boss, they threw their Flame Potions at the Mythic monster.

When the potion bottles shattered and coated the King of Trees' trunk, its sturdy bark ignited. By the time all 100 Flame Potions struck the King of Trees, the Mythic monster had transformed into a bonfire.

“Groar!”

The King of Trees bellowed and groaned as its Basic Attributes rapidly fell, and the pressure on Solitary Nine decreased. Now, he only received around -2,000 damage when blocking the Mythic monster's normal attacks. Now, he could even withstand an attack from all twelve of the King of Trees' tendrils simultaneously.

The six Tier 3 summoned creatures and five MTs groups ran forward, each tanking one of the Boss's main tendrils, further reducing the pressure on Solitary Nine.

However, the King of Trees was enraged, its Attack Speed increasing. Hundreds of smaller tendrils extended from its trunk, attacking everything in range. Each of the minor tendrils carried 35% of the Mythic monster's Strength, more than enough to suppress a Great Lord of the same level.

The summoned creatures and the MT groups were in danger. When the MTs blocked the minor tendrils, they received nearly -8,000 damage. On average, each MT had to face three or four minor tendrils. Even with their Lifesaving Skills active, the MT groups were starting to falter, and the healers struggled to keep up with the plummeting HP.

Phoenix Rain's team finally understood how terrifying the King of Trees was.

*As expected of a Mythic monster. Relying on the Flame Potions isn't enough.* Shi Feng sighed helplessly. He then used 5,000 Magic Crystals to activate the Ring of Gospel's World Projection.

When World Projection activated, the King of Trees' Attributes decreased once more. The debuff was just enough to help the MT groups hold on.

"Everyone, attack!"

When Shi Feng issued the command, he activated Phantom Kill and dashed for the King of Trees.

Due to the Flame Potions, the King of Trees' Defense had weakened significantly. When Spells and arrows bombarded the Boss's trunk, damages ranging from -2,000 to -3,000 appeared above the Mythic monster's head. The fire-type Skills and Spells did the most damage, each dealing over -5,000 damage on average.

Zhao Yueru's attacks stood out from the rest. Wielding Frostflame's Wrath, she bombarded the King of Trees with one fire-type Spell after another, each dealing nearly -30,000 damage.

*Just how high is her magic damage?* Blue Phoenix, who stood a short distance away from Zhao Yueru, was rendered speechless.

She was an Elementalist and was already Level 48, yet despite wielding an Epic staff, robe and a pair of gloves, her Tier 1 fire-type Spells only dealt around -12,000 damage. She couldn't even manage half of Zhao Yueru's damage.

As everyone continued their bombardment, watching the King of Trees' HP steadily decrease.

90%... 70%... 50%...

However, as the Mythic monster's HP fell, more tendrils gradually joined the fight. These minor tendrils no longer focused on the summoned creatures and the MTs, occasionally sprouting from the ground to attack the ranged DPS and distant healers.

Although the minor tendrils only carried 35% of the King of Trees' Strength, they packed enough power to instantly kill the cloth-armor classes, steadily reducing the team's numbers.

By the time the King of Trees' HP fell to 20%, the 1,000-man army had around 700 players remaining.

"Despicable intruders! You will only help me grow!" the King of Trees bellowed.

Suddenly, six more main tendrils joined the fight. Now, each of the main tendrils dealt nearly -20,000 damage to the MTs with active Berserk Skills. Before anyone could react, the six new tendrils killed off six MTs.

As the MT group fell, the Boss's aggro management descended into chaos.

"Attack with everything! Use every Skill and Spell you have!" Shi Feng shouted.

The sudden loss of an MT group made it impossible for the team to defend against 18 main tendrils. Their only hope was to throw everything they had at the Boss and hope they could outlast it.

Solitary Nine, Dark Madness, and Lifeless Thorn no longer dared to hold back. Immediately, they activated their Berserk Skills. At the same time, Solitary Nine activated Titan's Heart, creating a protective shield around him that could absorb damage equal to ten times his maximum HP.

The three of them quickly moved into position and activated Triple Frostmoon.

Suddenly, three dazzling arcs of light struck the King of Trees, pulling a pained scream from the Mythic monster. At the same time, the King of Trees lost over 2,000,000 HP, its HP bar decreasing by a sizable chunk.

Likewise, Shi Feng activated Heavenly Dragon's Power before using one Skill after another.

Across the battlefield, Phoenix Rain activated one Tier 3 Magic Scroll after another as well.

As the King of Trees' HP decreased, it launched frenzied attacks, swiftly claiming players' lives. Although Shi Feng wanted to summon his Personal Guards, players were prohibited from doing so in Historical Sites. He could only summon a Tier 3 Demon to assist.

Eventually, the King of Trees' HP fell to 2%, but only a little over 100 players were still alive. Only a dozen or so MTs still stood against the Boss, and over 70% of the team's healers had died. At this rate, the team would fall before they could kill the King of Trees.

"Everyone, retreat!" Shi Feng shouted when he realized the hopelessness of the situation. Grinding his teeth, he took the Tier 4, large-scale destruction Magic Scroll from his bag and unfurled it. "Die!"

As the Magic Scroll unfurled, the space around the Sunset Shrine froze. The surrounding Mana surged towards the Scroll in Shi Feng's hand before a golden magic array formed beneath the Boss.

*Boom!*

Suddenly, a golden pillar of light rose from the ground, enveloping the Mythic ranked Guardian Boss and piercing through the magic barrier around the Sunset Forest.

The King of Trees' tendrils, both main and minor, disintegrated. Its remaining 2% HP fell to zero instantly. By the time the golden light pillar dissipated, nothing had remained of the King of Trees. The surviving players only saw a scorched, empty plot of land...

Chapter 1483 – Obtaining the First Clear of the Sunset Forest

"The Boss is dead?"

"What tier was that Spell?! How is it so powerful?!"

As the Tier 4 Spell, Titan's Wrath, dissipated, the surviving team members regained their senses. Even then, they couldn't bring themselves to believe that the King of Trees was dead.

By the time the team had taken the King of Trees down to 2% of its HP, it had deployed well over 1,000 minor tendrils on the battlefield. With the remaining 100-plus members on the team, it would have been impossible to wipe out the Boss's remaining HP before the Mythic monster annihilated the rest of the team.

And yet, just as the team was about to wipe, someone bombarded the King of Trees into oblivion. Why wouldn't they be shocked?

*Was that some sort of trump card Zero Wing had kept hidden?* Phoenix Rain stared at the empty plot before her in shock. She had never expected Zero Wing to have a Tier 4, large-scale destruction Magic Scroll.

At this stage of the game, Tier 3 Magic Scrolls were extremely precious. With just one of these scrolls, an ordinary player could make a fortune overnight with enough funds to purchase a powerful set of equipment. Among the various Magic Scrolls available, large-scale destruction Spells and Summoning Spells were the most valuable and highly sought after by the various large Guilds.

Both types of Magic Scrolls were powerful enough to turn the tide in battle.

But Shi Feng had actually used a Tier 4, large-scale destruction Magic Scroll. Not even the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion had gotten their hands on such a scroll...

The King of Trees' death contributed a tremendous amount of EXP to the surviving players. Phoenix Rain had even risen from Level 48 to Level 49. They had obtained more EXP than anyone had expected.

Meanwhile, after the King of Trees' death, the barrier enveloping the Sunset Shrine gradually disappeared.

...



System: Congratulations! You are the first team to raid the Sunset Forest successfully. Rewards in the Sunset Shrine doubled. You will be teleported out of the Sunset Forest after one hour automatically.

...

“Healers, resurrect the dead. Everyone else, rest up,” Shi Feng commanded before entering the Sunset Shrine with Phoenix Rain to inspect the treasures inside.

The other players couldn’t help their envy, curious about what treasures the shrine held, but they knew that they’d have to wait.

Historical Sites typically offered far more treasure than Dungeons, some of which could be used as Guilds’ trump cards. Naturally, these Guilds would have more of an advantage if fewer people knew about these items.

As for Shi Feng, not only was he Phoenix Rain’s ally, but he had also signed a contract with the Phoenix Pavilion Master. He had also contributed the most during the raid. Thus, he qualified to enter the shrine alongside the Guild Leader.

*Zero Wing and the Asura adventurer team, huh?* Quiet Melody could not help but watch Shi Feng’s departing back before glancing at Asura’s resting members, curiosity and intrigue dominating her thoughts. *It seems that I really will need to report to the Guild Leader.*

Despite all of the effort the Sacred Temple had spent raiding various Historical Sites, the Guild had failed to raid a single Grade 2 ruin, yet Phoenix Rain’s temporary team had secured the First Clear of a Grade 1 Historical Site. If other Guilds discovered this, it would cause a commotion.

On the journey here, Quiet Melody had carefully observed everything that had happened.

Based on what she had seen, she was absolutely certain that without Zero Wing and Asura's help, Phoenix Rain's team would've failed. In fact, they would've been lucky to reach the Sunset Forest's core within the allotted time, much less kill the Mythic ranked King of Trees.

She had never imagined that a recently-established Guild like Zero Wing could become so powerful in such a short amount of time.

While Historical Sites were very rare in God's Domain, Super Guilds like the Sacred Temple had discovered quite a few already. The only thing preventing them from harvesting these ruins' treasure was their lack of strength.

Although she did not know what the conditions of Phoenix Rain and Zero Wing's agreement, the Sacred Temple was capable of any price she could afford.

...

Elsewhere, with the magic barrier gone, Shi Feng and Phoenix Rain easily entered the Sunset Shrine.

The interior was luxurious. It looked more like a palace than a shrine. Meanwhile, the two found a large pile of items in the center of this palace.

"This is the Sunset Forest's First Clear reward?"

Even Phoenix Rain, who had seen plenty of treasure before and had her own significant wealth, was surprised to see the mound before her.

Among the small mountain of items, she easily counted more Treasure Chests than what they had looted from the three Dryad nests they raided earlier. She even saw a few Epic Treasure Chests among them. Aside from Treasure Chests, there were all sorts of Master ranked potions, high-tiered Magic Scrolls, special Gemstones, and many other valuable items. As she gazed at the items, Phoenix Rain felt as if she were dreaming.

*At least I didn't waste that Tier 4 Magic Scroll.*

Shi Feng spotted three Epic Treasure Chests in addition to Elemental Treasure Boxes and Seven Luminaries Treasure Boxes, which contained Elemental Sources and Seven Luminaries Crystals, respectively.

He had thought that the Flame Potions would be enough to raid the Sunset Forest, but in the end, he had been forced to use a Tier 4 Magic Scroll as well.

But after seeing the Sunset Shrine's treasure, he was satisfied with trading a Tier 4 Magic Scroll for the first pick of five of the shrine's items.

Neither the Elemental Treasure Boxes nor the Seven Luminaries Treasure Boxes were any less valuable than the Epic Treasure Chests. An Elemental Treasure Box would drop one to three Elemental Source Stones when opened, while a Seven Luminaries Treasure Box would drop three to six units of Seven Luminaries Crystals. Both Treasure Boxes had been highly sought after by the various Guilds in his previous life.

Moreover, Shi Feng spotted various materials, designs, Skill Books, and other precious items that could easily drive the various large Guilds mad with envy.

It took Shi Feng and Phoenix Rain over half an hour to organize the loot.

“According to our agreement, I’ll choose five items first,” Shi Feng said as he glanced at Phoenix Rain.

“Alright, take your pick.” Phoenix Rain nodded.

She was extremely satisfied with the Sunset Shrine’s treasure.

Even if Shi Feng claimed all three Epic Treasure Chests, she wouldn’t be disappointed in the least. After all, among the treasures here, over ten were just as valuable.

Seeing Phoenix Rain nod, Shi Feng began to select his prizes.

However, the man hadn’t pocketed the three Epic Treasure Chests as Phoenix Rain had expected. On the contrary, Shi Feng didn’t even glance at the Treasure Chests. Instead, the first items he claimed were the two Elemental Treasure Boxes.

While current players might realize how valuable Elemental Sources were, he did. In fact, Elemental Sources could be strategic tools in Mythic monster raids. Hence, he had to prioritize these items.

After selecting the Elemental Treasure Boxes, Shi Feng chose the Sunset Potion Recipe, an Advanced Alchemy Recipe unique to the Sunset Forest. The recipe usually had a very low chance at appearing in the Sunset Shrine. When consumed, the potion would halve the penalty of a single death. It was a super-potion with a 24-hour Cooldown.

Avoiding death was incredibly difficult in God's Domain. Each time a player died in the field, they'd lose an entire level. Hence, the Sunset Potion had been highly regarded in the past. Only, very few Guilds had been able to brew the potion, contributing to its rarity on the market.

The Potion had only cost 10 or so Silver to produce, yet it had sold for around 1 Gold.

Now that the Sunset Potion Recipe had dropped, he had no reason not to claim it.

Shi Feng also selected the Basic Mana Bomb Design, an Advanced Engineering Design. Although the necessary materials to craft the item were rare and expensive, each Basic Mana Bomb was as powerful as a Peak Tier 2 attack. When used in conjunction with Defensive Turrets, the Mana Bombs could rival a Tier 3 attack. The design was far more valuable than an Epic Weapon.

For Shi Feng's fifth choice, he selected the only Epic item throughout the hall.

The Seven Luminaries Bible!

Chapter 1484 – Seven Luminaries Bible

“These are the five items that you want?” Phoenix Rain was a little confused as she saw Shi Feng’s choices.

Setting aside the Seven Luminaries Bible, although the recipe and design for the Sunset Potion and Basic Mana Bomb were valuable, both were very difficult to produce. There was no doubt that the items’ production would be slow and limited.

The rare materials for the Basic Mana Bomb were particularly expensive. A single crafting attempt would cost around 2 Gold, while the final product could cost 6 Gold or more. Most importantly, unlike Tier 2 Magic Scrolls, the Mana Bombs had a 70% reduced effect against players. This impacted how useful the Mana Bombs could be.

Generally, players would only want such an expensive tool to deal with enemy players. Unless necessary, most players avoided using such costly items against monsters.

Even if Zero Wing crafted the Basic Mana Bombs, the Guild would only make a small profit from them. It would take ages before Zero Wing could earn enough money to make up for the loss of an Epic Treasure Chest.

The various large Guilds’ experts were already reaching Level 50 and obtaining their Tier 2 classes. Because of that, most Guilds were focused on converting their resources into items that would increase their experts’ combat power, helping them overcome their promotion quests, yet Shi Feng did the exact opposite by investing his resources in items that wouldn’t yield short-term profit...

He had even chosen two Elemental Treasure Boxes, which only confused her further.

“Mhm.” Shi Feng simply chuckled at Phoenix Rain’s question.

Others might have a hard time using these items to increase a player's strength, but he wouldn't have any issues. This was especially true for the Basic Mana Bomb. Although the production cost was high and it wasn't particularly useful against players, its effects would be miraculous against certain monsters.

Moreover, he had chosen the Seven Luminaries Bible, the most valuable item the Sunset Shrine had to offer. He was more than satisfied with his share.

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[Seven Luminaries Bible] (Epic Rank Item)

Contains the records of magic arrays the Gods had left behind. Sacrifice a sufficient amount of Mana to activate the recorded magic arrays.

...

The Seven Luminaries Bible would, at most, amount to some Epic toll or magic array with indefinite uses to other large Guilds. Moreover, even the strongest magic array within the bible was Intermediate rank. It could barely suppress a Grand Lord, yet it required a tremendous amount of Mana to activate.

Activating one of the Seven Luminaries Bible's Intermediate Magic Arrays cost 2,000 Magic Crystals. The Basic Magic Arrays cost 500 Magic Crystals to activate.

Honestly, one could easily purchase a stronger array with so many Magic Crystals. The only benefit of the Seven Luminaries Bible was its variety. Players wouldn't need to search high and low for a specific kind of magic array. There was nothing else special about the item.

What everyone didn't know was that the Seven Luminaries Bible didn't consist of a single volume. Rather, there were a total of seven books. Only after gathering all seven volumes could one display the Seven Luminaries Bible's true power.

The various superpowers had clashed often to obtain more of the bible's volumes in the past. They had discovered that one could use Advanced Magic Arrays once they had collected two volumes. While Intermediate Magic Arrays were rare, players could find them if they put in a little effort. However, the same could not be said for Advanced Magic Arrays and above. In addition, the materials needed to craft Advanced Magic Array Scrolls were exceedingly expensive. Meanwhile, these arrays could even suppress Mythic monsters, which would, in turn, increase players' chance of obtaining precious items.

One could just imagine how valuable an Advanced Magic Array could be if they could use it indefinitely for the cost of Magic Crystals.

God's Domain's current superpowers hadn't discovered this secret yet. Otherwise, Phoenix Rain would've mourned the item's loss.

Once Shi Feng had chosen his five items, Phoenix Rain organized her harvest.

They had obtained far more than she had expected. After opening the three Epic Treasure Chests, she had gained three Epic items and one Epic ranked, Growth-type shield. She was ecstatic over the outcome.

With an Epic shield, the raids on the various Team Dungeons would be much easier for her team.



She had also gained a large number of Level 50 Dark-Gold and Fine-Gold Weapons and Equipment.

Since Level 50 was a major turning point in the game, Level 50 equipment Attributes were two ranks higher than that of Level 45 equipment. Level 50 Secret-Silver Equipment could rival Level 45 Dark-Gold Equipment.

She now had enough Level 50 Secret-Silver, Fine-Gold, and Dark-Gold Equipment to fully arm a 100-man team. As long as she gave these pieces to players who had items that reduced level requirements, they could improve their equipment right away.

The shrine had also contained a large number of rare Gemstones, all of which could visibly improve players' combat power.

Meanwhile, the contest on Thunder Island prohibited the use of magical tools. This included items like the Bible of Darkness. Players had to rely on their own strength during the contest.

This was also why Nine Dragons Emperor had spent so much money to gain Bloody Paradise's help in the Sunset Forest.

When Phoenix Rain tried to hand 20% of the harvest to Shi Feng, Shi Feng refused the items. Instead, he requested Ancient Origin Wood as his share of the bounty, which was the equivalent of every log they had found during the raid. With the Ancient Origin Wood, Zero Wing could begin producing advanced speedboats.

Since Phoenix Rain needed the weapons and equipment, she saw no reason to refuse him.

Once they had finished distributing the loot, Shi Feng and Phoenix Rain called everyone into the shrine, leaving the Sunset Forest through the teleportation array inside. They then split their party to prepare for the contest on Thunder Island. However, Shi Feng planned to make his way to Ocean Viewing Town with his cargo of Ancient Origin Wood, intending to begin the advanced speedboat's production.

...

By the time Shi Feng and the others had returned to the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's courtyard, news of their success in the Sunset Forest spread to the various superpowers.

Although the system wouldn't announce a Historical Site's First Clear to the local region, it was difficult to keep a lid on the matter with so many participants. Besides, Phoenix Rain had borrowed experts from a few other Guilds for the raid.

"What?! You're saying that Phoenix Rain obtained the First Clear of a Grade 1 Historical Site?!"

"Since when had the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion grown so powerful?! That's a Grade 1 Historical Site we're talking about!"

"Zero Wing and the Asura adventurer team?"

"Where is this Asura adventurer team from? Why haven't I heard of it?"

“Go! Send someone to investigate this Asura adventurer team!”

When the various superpowers’ upper echelons read their subordinates’ reports, they turned their attention to Zero Wing and the Asura adventurer team, particularly Asura.

Zero Wing’s prowess was no longer news to these superpowers. If they were familiar with the Dark Arena, they had heard of Zero Wing’s exploits. There was also the old news of Zero Wing’s 1,000-man army defeating the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion’s Shadow Dragon Legion, proving that Zero Wing had an incredibly powerful team.

However, the Asura adventurer team was a different story. With the adventurer team being so powerful yet unknown, it had become a target for recruitment.

...

Meanwhile, Nine Dragons Emperor’s team cleared out a Dryad nest in the Sunset Forest’s core. Of the original 1,000 team members, less than 700 players remained standing. The survivors fought desperately to hold back a Grand Lord ranked Dryad.

“Quick! Take these Dryads down! We don’t have much time left!” Nine Dragons Emperor anxiously shouted.

He had used many of his trump cards just to get his team to the central area. Even then, he had spent more than six hours doing so. Once there, they had spent quite some time exploring the area before they had found a Dryad nest, but they hadn’t expected the Dryads to be so difficult to deal with. In addition, the nest they had found had been guarded by multiple Grand Lords. Even after activating all of their Tier 3 Summoning Scrolls, they were at a disadvantage.

“Pavilion Master, a report just came in from Sun Dragon,” Blood Dragon announced.

“What is it now?! Out with it!” Nine Dragons Emperor frowned. They had very little time remaining. If they didn’t eliminate these Dryads in time, they wouldn’t return with a single treasure.

“Sun Dragon has informed us that...Phoenix Rain has already obtained the Sunset Forest’s...First Clear,” Blood Dragon replied, struggling to believe the report.

#### Chapter 1485 – Taking Shape

Blood Dragon’s response stunned Nine Dragons Emperor on the spot.

“Impossible!” Nine Dragons Emperor shouted. “I know what Phoenix Rain’s team is capable of! She’d be lucky to reach the forest’s core! How could she possibly obtain the Sunset Forest’s First Clear?!”

They were from the same Guild, so he knew practically everything about Phoenix Rain’s capabilities. Even if she had some unknown trump card, she could never defeat the Historical Site’s Final Boss. He was only confident in doing so because he had an Advanced Magic Array and the aid of Bloody Paradise.

As far as he knew, Phoenix Rain didn’t have an Advanced Magic Array.

“Sun doubted the information as well, so she used multiple sources to verify the claim. She even obtained a video recording of the raid, so there is no mistaking the information,” Blood Dragon explained. “One of the reasons for her success was a tool called the Flame Potion, which significantly

reduced the Boss's Attributes. In addition, the Asura adventurer team has a super-powerful MT that tanked the weakened Boss by himself. In the end, Zero Wing used a Tier 4 Magic Scroll to finish it off."

"Lucky bastards! They actually found a way to weakened the Boss!" Nine Dragons Emperor fumed when he saw the video Blood Dragon had sent him. A trace of envy flashed in his eyes. However, he sneered and growled, "Just you wait. You may have secured the Sunset Forest's First Clear, but I'll teach you that your struggles are futile soon. Blood, notify Sun and tell her that she proceed with the plan. Contact Beast Emperor as well and tell that old bastard that I'm running out of patience. I don't want to see Zero Wing prance about any longer."

"Understood!" Blood Dragon shuddered when he heard the cold determination in Nine Dragons Emperor's voice.

...

Elsewhere, Shi Feng arrived in Ocean Viewing Town via a teleportation array.

The town's player population had increased significantly since his first visit. He saw countless players forming teams and parties as they prepared to set sail for the islands to grind and level.

He also spotted a few merchant fleet representatives conducting their maritime transportation business.

"Transport from Ocean Viewing Town to Sandy Bay Town! Special price right now! Only charging 15 Silver per person! Less than 1,000 slots of bag space free of charge! Five Silver for every additional 1,000 slots! Three Silver for each non-bag space item!"

“Transport from Ocean Viewing Town to Coral Harbor! Only charging 20 Silver per person! Less than 1,000 slots of bagspace free of charge! Seven Silver for every additional 1,000 slots! Five Silver for each non-bagspace item!”

...

Many independent merchant and adventuring players crowded around the merchant fleet representatives, trying to haggle down the prices.

Players who preferred to use the merchant ships were generally trying to avoid exorbitant teleportation fees. Cross-national teleportation fees were particularly expensive. Even teleporting to a neighboring country cost more than 1 Gold. It wasn't unusual to pay 2 or 3 Gold when traveling farther. It was cheaper to hire a ship. This was especially true for players transporting non-bagspace items.

Although the maritime transportation system in Ocean Viewing Town wasn't yet perfect, it had begun to take shape.

*These people sure are taking action quickly.* Glancing at the various merchant players, Shi Feng easily spotted over five merchant fleets. *It seems that I'll need to produce the new type of cargo ships as soon as possible.*

Maritime transportation had been very well-developed in the past. It had also generated a frightening amount of wealth for players. Hence, the various large Guilds had established their own merchant fleets and contested over territory at sea.

Initially, Shi Feng had been satisfied with the development of his naval forces, but there were plenty of capable players in God's Domain. In the end, many players had quickly discovered this business opportunity.

At the moment, these merchant fleets were renting ordinary cargo ships from NPCs. Each ordinary cargo ship could only carry 35 people, and the cargo ships' item space was limited. Each ship could only carry 30 non-bagspace items at a time.

He had previously spent 30,000 Gold to purchase a special Medium Shipyard. As long as he had sufficient materials and engineers, he could begin constructing the new cargo ships immediately. Not only were the new cargo ships 15% faster than ordinary cargo ships, but they could also carry up to 40 people at a time.

Meanwhile, Shi Feng had both engineers and materials available to him. He could start producing the ships as soon as he desired.

Once these new cargo ships were built, he'd make a fortune off of them whether he rented them out or used them himself.

Following which, Shi Feng contacted Melancholic Smile and had her dispatch a large number of engineers to Ocean Viewing Town. Previously, the Candlelight Trading Firm had lacked both quantity and quality of engineers, but now they had become a holy land for Lifestyle players in Star-Moon Kingdom. Since the trading firm constantly recruited Lifestyle players, they had a large collection of engineers. Right now, even if the trading firm only dispatched a small fraction of these players, they would be more than enough to operate a Large Shipyard, not to mention a Medium Shipyard.

"Guild Leader, do you really intend to use such a precious material to construct the Flying Eagle Speedboats and new cargo ships?" Burning Abyss was astonished as he gazed at the Ancient Origin Wood Shi Feng had placed before him.

As a Master Engineer, he had researched the various materials available in God's Domain. This was especially true for the materials useful to engineers.

He knew that Ancient Origin Wood was a top-tier material meant for ship construction. Using it to construct Bronze Speedboats would be a waste, much less constructing an advanced speedboat. The new cargo ship was even less valuable than an advanced speedboat.

“Just use it for now. I don’t have any higher-ranked designs on me at the moment.”

Shi Feng was just as reluctant to use the wood.

After all, Ancient Origin Wood was a precious material that could only be obtained from the Sunset Forest. When used to construct ships, not only would it increase the production success rate, but it also had a chance of strengthening the ship with the Power of Ancients, enhancing the ship’s quality. It was incredibly extravagant to use it to construct a ship that wasn’t even Bronze rank.

However, he couldn’t care less at the moment.

Ship designs were extremely rare. He had been fortunate enough to obtain the design for the Flying Eagle Speedboat and the newly-developed cargo ship.

Following which, Shi Feng handed Burning Abyss the Basic Mana Bomb Design and instructed him to produce the bombs.

He was happy enough to let the Advanced Engineers take charge of producing the speedboats and the cargo ships. There wasn’t a need to involve a Master Engineer like Burning Abyss in the project. The Basic Mana Bomb was a different story. Despite only being Basic rank, the design an Advanced Engineering Design. If he left it to the Advanced Engineers, their success rate would at most reach 30%. If Burning Abyss crafted the bombs, however, his success rate would be at least 50%. Letting Burning



Abyss produce the bombs would save on cost and materials. After all, the required materials were both rare and expensive.

“What an intricate design! I never knew magic arrays could be used in such a way!” After glancing at the Basic Mana Bomb Design, Burning Abyss was captivated.

“I’ll leave the shipyard’s management to you. As for this design, you’ll learn it. If you have time, try to produce as many of the bombs as you can. I have an important use for them,” Shi Feng said, chuckling at the engineer’s starstruck expression.

“Guild Leader?” Burning Abyss was stunned when he heard Shi Feng’s instructions. However, he was instantly overjoyed and excited.

Even after becoming a Master Engineer, he had only been promoted to Chief Engineer in the Candlelight Trading Firm. In the end, he was only one of Zero Wing’s core members, but it was a different story if he were allowed to manage the Shipyard. It was the equivalent of becoming one of the Guild’s upper management. Countless Lifestyle players dreamed of such status.

Following which, Shi Feng handed a portion of the Shipyard’s authority to Burning Abyss. He then paid Rodney a visit, calling in on the agreement with the Master Engineer to assist in the Shipyard. Not only would Rodney’s presence increase production success rate when crafting ships, but production speed would increase as well.

As Shi Feng finished with the Shipyard’s matters and prepared to lead Gentle Snow and the others to Thunder Island, Aqua Rose gleefully walked up to him, whispering, “Guild Leader, Summer just contacted me. She says that she’s successfully class-changed into a Dragon Slayer. Moreover, Cola has also completed his class-change. Should I have them head over?”

## Chapter 1486 – Assembly of Experts

“They’re done already?” Shi Feng was a little confused. As far as he could remember, the Dragon Slayer Class-change Quest wasn’t an easy one. “Alright, tell them to hurry and join us.”

Honestly, he had been somewhat worried about having sufficient strength for the contest on Thunder Island and had even considered recruiting Owl’s help. However, it seemed that wouldn’t be necessary.

Cola’s success in becoming a Tier 2 Dragon Slayer Knight alone would boost the team’s overall strength, not to mention Alluring Summer, who was now a Tier 2 Dragon Slayer Mage.

Both Basic Attributes and Skills would undergo a qualitative transformation when players reached Tier 2. Cola also had the Epic ranked Dragonscale Shield. Had he been present during the King of Trees’ raid, the raid definitely would’ve been a lot easier. He wouldn’t have needed to waste an incomparably precious Tier 4 Magic Scroll.

Hearing Shi Feng’s answer, Aqua Rose immediately contacted Alluring Summer and Cola, telling them to gather in Ocean Viewing Town.

“Guild Leader, if we don’t leave soon, I’m afraid we won’t make it in time...” Gentle Snow said worriedly as she looked at the time.

It would take quite some time to travel from Star-Moon Kingdom to the Apocalypse Empire.

Thunder Island was located in the Sea of Death's inner region, very far away from the Apocalypse Empire. There weren't any teleportation arrays connected to the island, so players had to rely on other means to reach it.

In fact, the various major powers participating in the contest for Thunder Island's authority had long since set out. Phoenix Rain and Nine Dragons Emperor had only delayed their departure to obtain the weapons and equipment from the Sunset Forest.

As soon as Phoenix Rain had cleared the Historical Site, she and her subordinates rushed towards the island.

Since Shi Feng had wanted to begin producing advanced speedboats as soon as possible, he had made a trip to Ocean Viewing Town with the Ancient Origin Wood. Otherwise, they would've left for Thunder Island with Phoenix Rain's group.

As a result, their group was far behind schedule. Furthermore, the Swift Dragon Speedboat could only accommodate 30 people, half of their planned 60-man team. The rest of the members would have to sail on advanced speedboats.

If they left right this instant, they would barely make it in time for the contest. If they waited for Cola and Alluring Summer, they'd likely be late.

"Relax. We have enough time," Shi Feng consoled her, smiling.

Following which, Shi Feng led everyone to Ocean Viewing Town's harbor.

Half an hour later, Cola and Alluring Summer finally reached the harbor atop two majestic Thunder Wolves.

The moment Cola and Alluring Summer arrived, they attracted a lot of attention from the players at the harbor. They were difficult to miss. Both of these players radiated intense auras from atop their Mounts.

“Guild Leader, we’re sorry for the wait,” Cola apologized as he stopped before Shi Feng.

“It’s fine. It’s about time to set out,” Shi Feng said, nodding. He then invited Cola and Alluring Summer to the team.

When Lifeless Thorn and his companions from the Ice Crystal World saw Cola and Alluring Summer, they were astounded.

They had already been shocked to by the strength Zero Wing’s members displayed. They hadn’t expected the Guild to have even more experts.

“Lifeless, how confident are you of defeating those two?” Cleansing Whistle whispered as she looked at Cola and Alluring Summer.

Personally, Cleansing Whistle doubted that she was a match for Cola or Alluring Summer. Just by standing so close, she felt an intense wave of danger from them.

“The guy? Maybe. The other one? I don’t know. I’d have to fight her to find out,” Lifeless Thorn said, fighting spirit illuminating his gaze as he watched Alluring Summer.

He had struggled to find anyone who could offer a good fight back in Cold Wind City. When Shi Feng had said that God's Domain's continent had plenty of experts, he had assumed the claim was meant to excite him. But looking at it now, it would seem that the Swordsman hadn't lied.

"What? Even you aren't confident of winning?" Cleansing Whistle could not help but turn to look at Alluring Summer in shock.

Based on her observations during the raid in the Sunset Forest, she knew that Gentle Snow, Aqua Rose, and Zhao Yueru were powerful. Although other experts from Zero Wing had been present, it was obvious that they were significantly weaker than the three women.

Hence, Cleansing Whistle had assumed that Lifeless Thorn would rank among the top five in Zero Wing.

Unfortunately, it didn't seem like that was the case...

When she thought about how Zero Wing had at least five experts who were even stronger than a monster like Lifeless Thorn, her shock was natural.

However, Cleansing Whistle felt pretty lucky about the situation. She had been Cold Wind City's number one Swordsman. With no suitable rivals, she had to rely on herself to improve. Now, however, she met a group of people who were much stronger than her. They also had an expert Swordsman like Shi Feng. If she fought alongside these powerful people and leached off of their experiences, she could grow stronger far more quickly.

Cleansing Whistle wasn't the only one with such thoughts. Solitary Nine and Dark Madness were just as pleased.

As Asura's members subtly watched Cola and Alluring Summer, Shi Feng arrived beside the harbor and pulled a crystal bottle from his bag. He then began to chant an incantation.

Runes lit up and danced around the crystal bottle. A short moment later, dark fog surged forth, expanding to cover a large area of the water before Shi Feng. The scene attracted a lot of attention.

"What's going on? Is that guy summoning a Mysterious-Iron Speedboat?!"

"That shouldn't be possible. No speedboat is that big. It must be a cargo ship."

"I've seen someone release a cargo ship before, and it definitely wasn't that large."

...

While everyone discussed the disturbance, the cloud of dark fog expanded up and out. Soon, the fog dissipated, revealing Shi Feng's ship.

This ship was a silver sailboat, double the size of ordinary cargo ships. While it was docked, it dwarfed the nearby ordinary and advanced speedboats.

"What?!"

“That’s...a sailboat!”

“How is this possible?!”

Everyone was stupefied when they saw the One-horned Sailboat.

As naval players, they had spent most of their gaming career in God’s Domain at sea. Although they weren’t well-known experts, they understood ships just as well, if not better, than the various large Guilds.

A sailboat could send tremors throughout the Apocalypse Empire. It could definitely overturn the current hierarchy of the empire’s naval powers.

Even a Bronze Speedboat was no more than a fly to be swatted in the face of a sailboat.

“Guild Leader, since when do you have a sailboat? Could it be... Have you already repaired the sailboat we got from the Fallen Ark?!” Aqua Rose’s eyes glowed as she stared at the monstrosity of a ship before her.

Although Zero Wing had the Swift Dragon Speedboat, at the end of the day, a speedboat was just a speedboat. Without a large number of support ships, it would be very difficult to exert the Swift Dragon Speedboat’s maximum potential. At most, Zero Wing would be a minor threat to the Apocalypse Empire’s various naval powers.

However, it was a different story if Zero Wing had a sailboat. A sailboat would allow Zero Wing to contest for the empire’s port cities. If they had their own port city, they wouldn’t have to operate in the dark. They could simply steamroll over any opposing forces.

Even Gentle Snow was speechless.

Despite being one of the Guild's Vice Guild Leaders, she still didn't have a clear idea of how many secrets Zero Wing had.

It wasn't unlike the Asura adventurer team's sudden appearance.

"I haven't repaired the Storm Sailboat yet. I obtained the One-horned Sailboat from a sea monster I helped kill," Shi Feng said, shaking his head. "Alright, we don't have much time. Get on the boat!"

#### Chapter 1487 – Shocking All Sides

Due to the dark clouds that shrouded the Sea of Death all year round, it was always dusky. However, contrary to the islands in the Sea of Death, lightning constantly struck around Thunder Island, illuminating the area.

As Thunder Island could be found in the Sea of Death's inner region, permanent storms assailed the water. In addition, a large number of powerful sea monsters lived in the area, preventing sea-faring adventurers from casually approaching the island.

At this moment, however, ships of various kinds had dropped anchor around Thunder Island, forming a tight circle around the landmass. The naval adventurer teams that had come to spectate the upcoming contest were shocked.



“Pantheon’s fleet is amazing! It dispatched 14 Bronze Speedboats and one Mysterious-Iron Speedboat!”

“That’s nothing! Look at the Sacred Temple! Now, that’s what I call amazing! The Sacred Temple has sent over 100 speedboats! Among them, 23 are Bronze Speedboats, and over 50 are advanced speedboats. There are even two Mysterious-Iron Speedboats in the fleet! The Sacred Temple’s navy is definitely the strongest of them all!”

“I’m not so sure about that. Miracle has been rapidly developing its navy. Although the Guild doesn’t have any Mysterious-Iron Speedboats, it has 21 Bronze Speedboats and the Sea Dragon Mark, a Secret-Silver Speedboat. You should see how fast that Secret-Silver Speedboat is.”

“I wonder who will win the contest?”

...

The spectating players brimmed with anticipation as they discussed the participating superpowers’ navies.

Originally, only a few superpowers had focused on the contest for Thunder Island, but as time passed, more Guilds began to realize how important sea’s resources were. This was especially true for the treasured area known as the Sea of Death. In the end, more Super Guilds and super-first-rate Guilds had joined the fray.

Moreover, Thunder Island was the only safe haven in the Sea of Death. Any player that wanted to develop in the Sea of Death would have to dock on Thunder Island to restock and repair. Otherwise, traveling to and from the Sea of Death would be incredibly time-consuming.

Whoever controlled Thunder Island would become the Sea of Death's unofficial master.

Naturally, the contest on Thunder Island concerned every player's development in the Sea of Death. They had to pay attention to it. After all, every Guild had a different management style.

Besides, it was not often that they got to watch God's Domain's superpowers have a go at each other's throats.

Although they didn't have an entry pass for Thunder Island, they had all purchased an Intermediate Magic Mirror, which cost 8 Gold Coins. The Intermediate Magic Mirror allowed players to spy on a 100\*100-yard area within a 10,000-yard radius for four hours.

Fortunately, the Thunder Island contest only lasted eight hours.

Sixteen Gold might be expensive to an ordinary adventure team, but the naval adventurer teams capable of reaching Thunder Island were extraordinarily strong. Spending 16 Gold Coins was nothing to them.

After all, each of their adventurers yielded several to over a dozen Gold. They could easily earn back the spent Coins by exploring dangerous areas.

Players didn't get to see matches between the superpowers' peak experts every day. Who knew when they would get another opportunity? Furthermore, the various large Guilds highly valued Thunder Island. They would definitely go all-out in the upcoming contest.

While everyone waited for the barrier around the island to open, speedboats continued to arrive. Among these speedboats, some belonged to the various expert teams the superpowers had hired.

“Amazing! Isn’t that the Shadow Knight Order, a top adventurer team in the Beast Empire?! They’re joining the contest as well?!”

“Look! That person looks like Undead, Bloody Paradise’s commander!”

...

Many of the ships sailing towards Thunder Island belonged to well-known experts and adventurer teams in God’s Domain. However, as everyone watched the famous expert teams...

A gigantic, silver sailboat suddenly broke through the waves. As the sailboat pushed forward, the speedboats in its path inadvertently moved aside, opening a path as if their king had arrived.

The silver sailboat soon arrived before the magic barrier enveloping Thunder Island. Everyone watched the ship, questions dancing in their minds.

“Crap! That’s...a sailboat!”

“It’s so fast!”

“Who owns it?”

“That’s a sailboat? Speedboats are nothing but pests in comparison!”

The One-horned Sailboat’s arrival earned a round of gasps from the watching players. Both the independent players here to watch the contest and the various superpowers’ members were surprised to see it.

“March, which power do those people belong to? They actually got their hands on a sailboat. Why haven’t I received a report about this?” Thousand Miles, Miracle’s Second Vice guild Leader, asked the long-haired beauty beside him as his expression turned grim.

“I don’t know. There’s no mention of it in the information we collected on the superpowers,” Silent March said, shaking her head. She was similarly shocked to see the One-horned Sailboat.

Miracle had focused on developing its navy since the game had launched, yet they had only found a few clues about acquiring a sailboat. They were still far from actually obtaining one. It was truly hard to imagine that someone had found one before they had.

“Send someone to investigate this matter immediately! I want to know everything there is to know about that sailboat!” Thousand Miles barked, greed flashing in his eyes. “Also, send someone to keep an eye on those people. Do not let them slip past us!”

“Understood!” Silent March began to make the necessary arrangements.

Miracle wasn't the only Guild to notice the One-horned Sailboat. Pantheon, Battle Wolves, King's Return, Nine Heavens Pavilion, Sacred Temple, and Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion watched the ship closely. They were all hungry to know which power that sailboat belonged to.

Shortly after these Guilds' upper echelons ordered their investigations, cloaked figures began to arrive on the deck. Almost all of these players wore six-winged emblems. A few of these players were particularly familiar to the superpowers' upper echelons.

"How do they have a sailboat?"

"Zero Wing?"

Everyone's jaws dropped when they saw Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose, who hadn't bothered to hide their appearances.

All of these superpowers were very familiar with the two women. However, they didn't just recognize these women because of personal fame, but they also knew them as Zero Wing's Vice Guild Leaders. Since both were present on the One-horned Sailboat, the ship must belong to Zero Wing.

No matter how hard they tried to wrap their minds around the idea, they couldn't bring themselves to believe that Zero Wing, a rising Guild in Star-Moon Kingdom, had acquired a sailboat, something they had failed to do thus far. Furthermore, Star-Moon Kingdom wasn't anywhere near the sea.

"Big Sis Rain, look! It looks like that sailboat belongs to Zero Wing!" Blue Phoenix's stared in shock when she saw Shi Feng on the One-horned Sailboat's deck.

Rather than responding, Phoenix Rain was dazed. Suddenly, she realized why, after emerging from the Sunset Forest, Shi Feng had taken his sweet time to deal with some other matter rather than rushing to Thunder Island. It turned out that he had hidden yet another trump card.

The One-horned Sailboat gradually came to a halt beside Phoenix Rain's fleet. The various superpowers, who had been watching the sailboat, shifted their gaze to the Phoenix Pavilion Master. Phoenix Rain stared back, at a loss for words.

#### Chapter 1488 – Struggle for Thunder Island

When everyone saw the One-horned Sailboat park beside the fleet Phoenix Rain commanded, they couldn't help their wariness of the woman.

It was true that the struggle for Thunder Island relied on players' strengths, with external tools being prohibited. However, one had to obtain Thunder Passes to participate, and to do so, they needed to kill the Sea of Death's Bosses.

With a sailboat, Phoenix Rain would have an easier time defeating those Bosses. In turn, she could collect more passes.

The more Thunder Passes one possessed, the more players they bring to the contest.

Although each Guild was allowed a fixed number of Thunder Passes, the same couldn't be said for future contests. Now that Phoenix Rain had a sailboat, she would pose a huge threat during the next contest.

“Zero Wing sure has a lot of secrets.” Quiet Melody, who stood on the deck of one of the Sacred Temple’s speedboats, turned to look at Phoenix Rain, envy gripping her heart.

The various superpowers had struggled to recruit naval powers, trying to bolster their forces so they could obtain more Thunder Passes.

Yet, despite Phoenix Rain only recently focusing on her navy, she had recruited a powerful ally like Zero Wing, which had its own sailboat.

Phoenix Rain had cooperated with Zero Wing before it had risen to greatness. Needless to say, Zero Wing would help her grind for Thunder Passes if she asked.

However, unlike Quiet Melody, who had a strong friendship with Phoenix Rain, the other superpowers’ upper echelons had far more nefarious thoughts.

The various superpowers were preparing to aim their spearheads for the threat known as Phoenix Rain.

...

“Damn it! How did Zero Wing get that sailboat?!” Nine Dragons Emperor glared at the One-horned Sailboat with intense jealousy.

Although it was a single sailboat, its combat power was far beyond any speedboat.

While they had explored God's Domain's oceans, the various superpowers had learned one thing: ships were more important than players in naval combat. If a ship weren't of a certain quality, it wouldn't be able to contend with the Boss sea monsters. Needless to say, these powerful Bosses would drop weapons, equipment, and various tools that could help improve one's naval strength.

With these tools, a team could explore farther and more dangerous regions, obtaining even better equipment and tools, creating an endless, positive cycle.

As for Nine Dragons Emperor, he had spent a lot of money and resources to recruit rising naval powers. He had only amassed a sizable fleet after many challenges. This fleet was why he was confident in surpassing Phoenix Rain.

However, the appearance of Zero Wing's One-horned Sailboat had instantly made a joke of his effort...

"Pavilion Master, if Phoenix Rain has the help of a sailboat, she'll be a huge challenge in future struggles over Thunder Island," Blood Dragon worriedly commented.

There was no doubting that neither Phoenix Rain nor Nine Dragons Emperor would dominate Thunder Island this time. At most, each side would occupy a small corner of the island, slowly growing their navies until they could dominate the island as a whole. Now that Phoenix Rain had a sailboat on her side, there was no doubt that she had a massive advantage of Nine Dragons Emperor in future contests.

"Phoenix Rain will be a problem during future struggles for Thunder Island. However, she has to last until the next contest, first," Nine Dragons Emperor hissed once he calmed down. Sneering, he continued, "Contact the other Guilds. Tell them that I'd like to discuss cooperation. I'm sure they'll be willing to work with us to annihilate Phoenix Rain!"

The various superpowers had been wary of each other thus far. They'd be fortunate not to make more enemies, let alone participate. However, now that they all faced a future threat like Phoenix Rain, they would be willing to cooperate.



“Understood. I’ll contact them right away.” Realization dawned upon Blood Dragon. He then turned towards Phoenix Rain’s group, smirking.

“How are things coming along on Sun’s side?” Nine Dragons Emperor asked.

“Pavilion Master, rest assured; everything has been dealt with. All you need to do is sit back and watch the show,” Blood Dragon reported with a smile.

“Excellent. I want to see Phoenix Rain’s expression when she finds out.” Nine Dragons Emperor nodded in satisfaction.

...

Meanwhile, Phoenix Rain was shocked to learn that Zero Wing had its own sailboat.

“Team Leader Ye Feng, Zero Wing’s entrance was certainly grand,” Phoenix Rain said, smiling bitterly as she sensed malice from all directions. “Once we enter Thunder Island, I’m afraid many parties will target our team.”

“Phoenix Pavilion Master, don’t you see the opportunity?” Shi Feng retorted, chuckling.

While Zero Wing’s frightening potential was a threat to their competitors, it also made the Guild the best choice for an alliance.

It was impossible for a single superpower to monopolize Thunder Island. Everyone understood this, and it was precisely why the various superpowers sought allies.

After all, the profits one could gain with a single supporter versus two or more differed greatly.

The various superpowers might've looked down on Phoenix Rain, thinking themselves above cooperating with her, previously, but now that her side had such potential, she could be a formidable ally.

When the Phoenix Pavilion's members heard Shi Feng's reasoning, realization dawned. They were in awe of the Swordsman's foresight.

In reality, Phoenix Rain had considered seeking an alliance with a few other superpowers and had sent Blue Phoenix to negotiate.

Unfortunately, although the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion was a super-first-rate Guild, the Guild's strength was split three ways. Among them, the Great Pavilion Master was the strongest within the Pavilion. As a result, she couldn't convince the other superpowers to cooperate with her in the contest. As expected, every one of them had refused her offer.

However, with the addition of Zero Wing's sailboat, the other superpowers might reconsider.

"Big Sis Rain, both the Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple have stated that they are willing to cooperate. However, we will only get 20% of the profits while their Guilds will share the remaining 80%," Blue Phoenix reported angrily.

“Those despicable, old foxes.” Phoenix Rain frowned. “They know that I’m competing with Nine Dragons Emperor, so they’re using the opportunity to hike up their prices!”

“I have a suggestion. Would you be interested in hearing it, Phoenix Pavilion Master?” Shi Feng suddenly asked.

“A suggestion?” Phoenix Rain gave the man a curious look. “May I know what sort of plan Team Leader Ye Feng has in mind?”

“I’ll represent Zero Wing in this alliance. Negotiate with the Battle Wolves and the Sacred Temple for 40% of Thunder Island’s profits,” Shi Feng said.

“Forty percent?!” Blue Phoenix was astonished. She thought that Shi Feng had completely lost his mind.

It was obvious that the Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple had discussed the situation beforehand and only intended to offer Phoenix Rain 20%, yet Shi Feng wanted to ask for twice that. If the two Guilds heard this, they’d laugh themselves to death.

“Team Leader Ye Feng, are you serious?” Phoenix Rain asked earnestly.

“Guild Leader?”

Shi Feng’s proposal surprised both Gentle Snow and Aqua Rose. Both women thought the idea was ludicrous.

The 20% the Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple had proposed included Zero Wing’s cut, yet he wanted to double the price. Neither Guild would ever agree. After all, both were bona fide Super Guilds.

“Phoenix Pavilion Master, do you really think that our two Guilds aren’t worth 40% of Thunder Island’s profits?” Shi Feng asked, smiling.

“This...” For a time, Phoenix Rain did not know how to answer Shi Feng’s question.

Her forces were, in no way, inferior to Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple’s. She just didn’t have as many people. However, it was a different story if she included Zero Wing’s sailboat.

Zero Wing’s sailboat could make up for the naval combat power the Phoenix Pavilion lacked. If both Guilds worked together in the future, they’d be able to secure far more Thunder Passes than the Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple.

Hence, asking for 40% of the profits was in no way excessive. Only, the Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple knew that other Guilds would target her if she didn’t cooperate with them. All sides might even turn against her as soon as they entered Thunder Island.

“If you don’t feel that we’re worth that much, then you should see this.” Shi Feng understood Phoenix Rain’s concerns. He sent her a trade request, placing one of the crystal bottles from his bag into the trade window.

*This is...a Small Sailboat! How?!* Phoenix Rain shot Shi Feng an astounded look when she saw the item.

In God's Domain, items currently in use couldn't be placed in a trade window. The fact that she was staring at a Small Sailboat proved that Zero Wing had more than one.

She found it truly hard to believe that, while the various superpowers frantically searched for sailboats, Zero Wing had acquired at least two without anyone noticing...

She even wondered if her eyes were playing a trick on her, but when she clicked on the glass bottle, the Attribute Panel that appeared proved its existence.

"Phoenix Pavilion Master, what do you think of my proposal now?" Shi Feng asked, smiling.

The Small Sailboat he had just revealed was none other than the ordinary Small Sailboat he had liberated from the Freedom Alliance's Identical Summer. Although it was only an ordinary Small Sailboat, its combat power far surpassed any speedboat. He also had the Mysterious-Iron ranked Storm Sailboat, which he had yet to repair.

Unfortunately, the Storm Sailboat wasn't usable combat power right now. Hence, he had only decided to reveal the ordinary Small Sailboat.

"I understand. I'll notify the Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple about your proposal," Phoenix Rain said after taking a deep breath. When she looked at Shi Feng, she felt as if the man were foreign to her.

“Big Sis Rain?” Blue Phoenix gave her friend a confused look. She could not figure out what Shi Feng had shown Phoenix Rain to change her mind about such a huge risk so quickly.

“Don’t try to persuade me. Just do as he says,” Phoenix Rain commanded.

With no other choice, Blue Phoenix transmitted the new offer to the Battle Wolves and Sacred Temple’s upper echelons. She no longer dared to think of what their reply would be.

...

“Interesting. Phoenix Rain is bold enough to make such an offer despite her current predicament?” Eternal Dead, the Sacred Temple’s Guild Leader, could not help but laugh when he saw Phoenix Rain’s counteroffer.

On the other hand, Quiet Melody was dazed for a moment when she read the new message.

Only one thought came to her mind.

*Has Phoenix Rain lost her mind?*

If Phoenix Rain had the authority to mobilize all of the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion’s forces and Zero Wing’s sailboat, she might have a chance of convincing the Battle Wolves and Sacred Pavilion to agree with her conditions. Unfortunately, with her current strength, the Super Guilds would never agree.

Based on Quiet Melody's knowledge, Phoenix Rain had only obtained 270 slots for the contest. That was barely on par with Nine Dragons Emperor's slots, but the Sacred Temple had 710. Ignoring the standards of the Guilds' experts, the severe difference in numbers put Phoenix Rain at an overwhelming disadvantage.

"Melody, tell Phoenix Rain that her condition lacks sincerity, and the Sacred Temple will need time to consider her offer properly," Eternal Dead said, smiling.

"Understood." Quiet Melody nodded.

Elsewhere, the Battle Wolves' upper echelons prepared a similar answer.

...

"Big Sis Rain, both Guilds gave the same reply. They have said that they need more time to consider," Blue Phoenix helplessly reported.

Obviously, the Battle Wolves and the Sacred Temple wanted to watch them make a fool of themselves and take advantage when the other superpowers targeted their forces on Thunder Island. If they went crawling to the two Guilds then, they'd be lucky to get 20%, much less 40% of the islands' profits.

"As expected... It seems that we can only take this one step at a time." The outcome didn't surprise Phoenix Rain whatsoever. All she could do was try her best in the contest. As long as she could occupy a spot on the island, nothing could stop her in the future.

While the various superpowers had negotiated alliances, the magic barrier around Thunder Island turned from blue to crimson. Furious roars echoed from the island, and despite being so far away, everyone heard them clearly.

“Has the contest begun?”

As more of the island’s monsters voiced their rage, the spectating adventurer teams took out their Intermediate Magic Mirrors and began to observe the landmass.

“Move out!”

In response, the various superpowers stored their ships and retrieved their Thunder Passes. They used the passes to leave a Thunder Mark on their members, each pass imparting ten marks. Any player with a Thunder Mark could teleport to Thunder Island at any time.

Shortly after, the various superpowers’ members disappeared almost simultaneously as they teleported to Thunder Island to contest for the ancient towers.

During the contest, players were prohibited from using any tools. They could only rely on their own power to compete. In addition, all of the island’s monsters had frighteningly high Magic Resistance and Defense. Players had to occupy as many ancient towers as they could, reducing these monsters’ Magic Resistance and Defense, or raiding the encampments would be very difficult.

Meanwhile, teleportation to Thunder Island wasn’t completely random. Generally, players who were close to each other would teleport to the same location. As long as they gathered before teleporting to the island, they could take action as a team as soon as they arrived.



“It seems that we got a good location.”

After arriving on the island, Shi Feng inspected the system map. Currently, their group was north of Thunder Island’s outer region, very close to a monster encampment and three ancient towers. As long as they secured these ancient towers, they could clear out the monster encampment.

Following which, Phoenix Rain and Shi Feng began to rearrange the team. They were prepared to split into three groups, prioritizing the ancient towers. Only after they solidified their hold would they head towards the nearest encampment.

However, as Shi Feng and the others prepared to head out, a group of nearly 300 players approached. Leading this group was none other than Nine Dragons Emperor.

“Nine, what is the meaning of this?” Phoenix Rain demanded in a chilling tone as she glared at the Heavenly Dragon Pavilion Master.

“What else could this be? We’re here to eliminate a future problem,” Nine Dragons Emperor said, sneering.

“We have nearly the same number of players. You know that a fight between us will only benefit our mutual enemies.” Although Phoenix Rain had suspected that Nine Dragons Emperor might attempt to take action, she hadn’t expected him to do so this quickly, even neglecting the contest for the ancient towers.

“Equal numbers, huh?” Nine Dragons Emperor responded playfully. “I don’t think so.”

As soon as Nine Dragons Emperor finished speaking, she heard an anguished scream from behind her.

Turning around, she discovered that the 50 Firmament members on her team had turned traitor, attacking her other team members. In seconds, over 20 players had died. By the time she reacted, Firmament's members had pulled away from her team.

"Lonely Heaven!" Phoenix Rain bellowed, dense killing intent lacing her gaze as she glared daggers at Firmament's smiling Guild Leader.

"Phoenix Pavilion Master, if you have to blame someone, blame yourself for making the wrong decision. You actually invested so much into a no-name Guild like Zero Wing," Lonely Heaven paid no attention to Phoenix Rain's killing intent. "Now, prepare to pay the price for your mistake!"

"Well said! Rain, since you made a wrong decision, you should pay the corresponding price!" Nine Dragons Emperor then commanded, "Everyone, attack! Leave none of them alive!"

Initially, both his team and Phoenix Rain's had about the same number of players, but now that Firmament had mutinied and killed 20 of Phoenix Rain's players, she had less than 200. On the other hand, he now had 350. With nearly double the numbers, he could easily eliminate Phoenix Rain's team.

Chapter 1490 – Bloodhand Yama

As soon as Nine Dragons Emperor gave the command, his experts marched forward in formation.

With Martial Dragon and Blood Dragon on the frontline, the melee players charged at Phoenix Rain's team. Meanwhile, the ranged players spread out to encircle her players, providing their melee teammates cover fire. The healers in the back began their incantations immediately.

With Firmament's members behind them, Phoenix Rain's team had nowhere to go.

"Everyone, concentrate your attacks on Firmament's members! We're breaking through! Avoid prolonged fights!" Although Phoenix Rain was furious about Lonely Heaven's betrayal, wanting nothing more than to murder the bastard herself, she quickly recovered her calm and decided to save as much of her team's strength as possible.

After all, the contest for Thunder Island had just begun.

Both sides had plenty of Refinement Realm and above experts. If Refinement Realm experts worked together, their overall combat power would increase tremendously. When fighting foes of the same level, even at a numerical disadvantage, they'd be impossible to annihilate quickly.

Unfortunately, defeating Nine Dragons Emperor's team was impossible. Although she had Shi Feng and Zero Wing's other peak experts, Nine Dragons Emperor had his own. The Shadow Dragon Legion's Shadowtooth and Martial Dragon were the best examples. Both were Domain Realm experts and more than capable of posing a problem for her team. In addition, Nine Dragons Emperor had other experts under his command and the help of Bloody Paradise.

Although the Phoenix Pavilion and Heavenly Dragon Pavilion on part in overall strength, the trump card legions under each banner weren't under the full control of their respective Pavilion Master. Rather, these trump card legions prioritized the Great Pavilion Master's commands. Meanwhile, Phoenix Rain had only been the Phoenix Pavilion's Master for a short time, and as a result, the Phoenix Pavilion's trump card legions still maintained their loyalty to the previous Master. Like Shadowtooth's case, she wasn't allowed to order them around and had to result to persuasion.

This was why her powerbase was significantly weaker than Nine Dragons Emperor's.

Now that he had persuaded Shadowtooth to fight for him, and Martial Dragon, whom Nine Dragons Emperor had nurtured, had become a Domain Realm expert, the gap between them had widened.

With fewer players on her team, she had no chance of victory. She could only avoid a clash with Nine Dragons Emperor.

Like in other maps, players that died on Thunder Island would lose a level and drop a piece of equipment. This gave her even more of a reason to avoid a fight with Nine Dragons Emperor. If her team were weakened further, she'd have no hope of capturing the ancient towers and monster encampments.

"You wish to break through?" Nine Dragons Emperor sneered as he watched Phoenix Rain lead her team towards Firmament's group. "Lonely! It's about time we give our lady Pavilion Master a taste of despair!"

Hearing this, the distant Lonely Heaven grinned and nodded. He then turned to one of his cloaked Guild members and said, "I've done my part. I'll leave the rest to you."

"Relax. We've accepted your payment and will complete the mission." At this time, a robust man emerged from Firmament's team. The man removed his Black Cloak, revealing a mass of muscle. With the Black Cloak gone, his horrific bloodlust was no longer contained, and even players standing over 30 yards away could sense it radiating off of him.

This robust man wasn't the only one to remove his cloak. The 40-plus members Lonely Heaven had brought with him discarded the items as well, every one of them emanating a dense bloodlust. Every player's ID was pitch-black, revealing their statuses as Dark Players.

With one look at these players, Phoenix Rain's teammates shuddered.

"Bloodhand Yama!" Phoenix Rain was shocked when she realized who the robust man was.

Bloodhand Yama might be a foreign name among ordinary players, but it was very well-known among the various superpowers. The man was one of the Flower of Seven Sins' representatives. He had killed numerous superpowers' upper echelons in the past.

"Phoenix Pavilion Master, your life is mine!"

Saying so, Bloodhand Yama gestured with a hand. Immediately, the Flower of Seven Sins members around him split into multiple parties and dashed towards Phoenix Rain and the others. He then raised his gray, diamond shield and tightened his grip on his double-headed, one-handed axe before charging like a berserk beast.

Although Bloodhand Yama's team had very few members, the majority of them were Shield Warriors and Berserkers. His team only had five healers. Because of the narrow canyon they occupied, the Flower of Seven Sins' members easily formed a human wall that prevented anyone from passing.

Meanwhile, the spectators watched the battle from the waters around Thunder Island. As a result, news of the battle spread quickly to the various superpowers on the island.

...

“Nine Dragons Emperor really is ruthless. Despite being from the same Guild, he is trying to annihilate Phoenix Rain’s forces.” Eternal Dead, who currently commanded the Sacred Temple’s members as they captured an ancient tower, couldn’t help but chuckle when he saw the video. “Fortunately, after this battle, Phoenix Rain should realize that without our help, she won’t accomplish anything on Thunder Island.”

...

“How rich. In addition to Bloody Paradise, he invited the Flower of Seven Sins to help him? He’ll likely put Phoenix Rain down for good this time.” When the Battle Wolves’ Sirius watched the video his subordinate had transmitted, he could not help his rueful sigh.

In the virtual gaming world, both the Flower of Seven Sins and Bloody Paradise were organizations that were moved by money. The Flower of Seven Sins, in particular, was famous for its high prices. Even Super Guilds would lament the cost of assassinating a Vice Guild Leader-level player.

However, Sirius had to admit that the Flower of Seven Sins’ services were worth every penny. As long as one could afford their prices, the organization would guarantee any player’s death.

...

Meanwhile, back on the battlefield, the Flower of Seven Sins’ members slammed into Phoenix Rain’s group.

Bloodhand Yama easily made his way through the blockade of Phoenix Pavilion members. As if he could predict the future, he dodged or blocked every attack sent his way. When his double-headed axe descended, it always found its mark.

As a result, Bloodhand Yama slaughtered the Phoenix Pavilion's Refinement Realm experts and slowly, but surely made his way towards Phoenix Rain.

"So strong!" Solitary Nine, who was also a Shield warrior, was shocked by Bloodhand Yama's strength.

The man's display was completely different from Shi Feng's in Cold Wind City. Shi Feng had relied on overwhelming Attributes to defeat his enemies, whereas Bloodhand Yama used techniques. It seemed as if the Shield Warrior could block every attack and break every defense before him.

However, Phoenix Rain was no ordinary player, either. Although her performance in the Sunset Forest hadn't been jaw-dropping, she was by no means weak. In fact, it seemed as if the Phoenix Pavilion Master had become an entirely different person as Solitary Nine watched her fight. Every one of her Spells seemed to have a life of their own, avoiding shields and landing solid blows. Her attack method had plenty of variations. Sometimes, her Spells descended from the sky, while other Spells seemed to manifest from their surroundings. When some of her Spells missed their mark, they seemed to make an abrupt U-turn, striking at the target's back. Due to her varied attack patterns, Phoenix Rain's targets struggled to defend themselves.

The Flower of Seven Sins suffered numerous casualties at Phoenix Rain's hand. She had even killed two party-leader-level experts.

Meanwhile, Blue Phoenix seamlessly executed triple-casting, using her powerful Spells to disperse the attacking formation.

The level of combat dumbfounded the players watching from safety. Countless players used a variety of combat techniques, which they rarely got to see. Moreover, they watched as players used Skills in unheard-of ways.

At the end of the day, however, Phoenix Rain's team was wedged between two forces. In addition, Nine Dragons Emperor's side had an absolute advantage in numbers. It was only a matter of time before the Phoenix Pavilion Master's team fell.

"It seems we have no choice but to expose our trump card." Shi Feng, who was fended off the Heavenly Dragon Pavilion's members, could not help but sigh. He then commanded through the team chat, "Cola, Summer, open a path! Aqua and I will bring up the rear!"

"Understood!"

Cola and Alluring Summer nodded before dashing towards Bloodhand Yama.

Chapter 1491 – Experts Clashing

Just as Shi Feng finished issuing orders, a figure appeared behind Cola.

"Assassin! Be careful!"

Lifeless Thorn shouted to warn the Guardian Knight when he saw the figure.



He stood only five yards away from Cola, and at that distance, he could even sense movement in the grace, yet despite pushing his senses to their limits, he failed to detect the approaching figure. Only after this figure had revealed himself had he noticed the enemy Assassin...

He had never heard of such a high-level concealment technique.

Although Lifeless Thorn tried to stop the Assassin's attack, the latter was simply too fast. A split second after the Assassin had appeared, a streak of black light sliced across Cola's back.

"Do you really think you have any hope of leaving this place alive?" Shadowtooth, who wore a black mask, hissed after appearing behind Cola.

Assassinate!

*Peng!*

When the black light descended, nearby players heard the sound of shattering glass.

Before anyone had noticed, a transparent barrier had manifested behind Cola. Shadowtooth's attack sliced the barrier in half, but Cola remained unharmed.

*Someone blocked my attack?* Shadowtooth was caught off guard. He turned to search his surroundings, intent on finding the player that had blocked his blade.

The Assassin's gaze soon found Alluring Summer, who wore pitch-black mage robes and wielded a blue, wooden staff.

*She actually stopped Shadowtooth's ambush? Just who is that female Elementalist?* Nine Dragons Emperor, who commanded the battle from afar, shot Alluring Summer a glance.

Shadowtooth was the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's number one expert. Both his skills and items ranked among the best in the Guild.

Even Martial Dragon, who had grasped a Domain, could not always fend off Shadowtooth's ambushes.

Nine Dragons Emperor wouldn't have been terribly surprised to see a melee player with fast reactions fend off Shadowtooth's strike, but it had been an Elementalist. It was unbelievable.

"Young lady, your reaction speed is quite impressive. But all you've done is called death upon yourself!" Shadowtooth said in a chilling tone, narrowing his eyes at Alluring Summer. He then transformed into a shadow, dashing towards the Elementalist as he ignored Cola.

Once an Assassin failed an ambush, they'd have a very difficult time killing an MT of the same level. On the other hand, killing a cloth-armor class was easy. This was especially true for Shadowtooth, who had recently obtained the Epic ranked Shadow Boots. These Epic boots increased his initial acceleration to 20% of his maximum Movement Speed, boosting his dexterity to a whole new level.

The greatest difference between expert and ordinary players was typically their dexterity.

Even with the same Attributes, experts seemed faster when they moved. In contrast, ordinary players typically looked like robots, their actions dull and predictable. This was due to a lack of dexterity.

Player's dexterity mainly manifested in their acceleration, how quickly one could go from 0% of their maximum speed to 100% and vice versa, not one's maximum speed. The more dexterous one was, the shorter the interval. Players would then be capable of accomplishing feats that were normally impossible.

If a player could begin accelerating at 20% of their maximum Movement Speed, the change would undoubtedly increase their dexterity by a large margin.

Shadowtooth dodged one Spell after another. Even when numerous melee experts blocked his path, he easily maneuvered his way through the gaps without getting caught.

Lifeless Thorn even executed a perfect Split Spear, but the combat technique was utterly useless against the Assassin. Not only had Lifeless Thorn failed to hit Shadowtooth, but he had even been struck by the man's counterattack.

Despite Shadowtooth countering with an ordinary attack, the impact threw Lifeless Thorn over a dozen yards away, his HP instantly falling by one-sixth of its maximum.

"How is that guy so fast?!"

The outcome stunned Cleansing Whistle and the other Asura members. They never thought that Lifeless Thorn could be repelled so easily. Fortunately, all of the players on Thunder Island were prohibited from using Berserk Skills. The consequences would've been unimaginable if Lifeless Thorn had been struck by an empowered Shadowtooth.

After removing the Berserker from his path, Shadowtooth quickly reached Alluring Summer, slashing Magic Breaker at the Elementalist's throat.

"Die!"

Shadowtooth activated the Tier 1 Skill, Dark Blade without hesitation. Not only was this Skill impossible to block, but it also ignored the target's Defense. Most importantly, the Skill would Silence the target for five seconds when struck. Even an ordinary expert could easily defeat a magical class player who couldn't cast Spells for five seconds.

However, just before the Assassin's blade bit into Alluring Summer, several arcs of golden electricity wrapped around him and sealed his movements.

*What accurate judgment!* Shadowtooth was slightly surprised to see the arcs binding him.

Restriction-type Control Skills and Spells weren't usually instantaneous. As a result, players had to predict a moving target's progress and react accordingly. Although Shadowtooth had expected Alluring Summer to attempt to stop him with a Control Skill as he approached, he had not expected the woman to use herself as bait, taking advantage of the instant he paused to attack.

However, Shadowtooth had reacted quickly as well. When he realized that he couldn't move, he used a Control Removal Skill to break free. He then swung Magic Breaker at the Elementalist once more.

However, Alluring Summer had prepared for this, taking half a step back. Since she had stopped Shadowtooth a second beforehand, he had lost his momentum. As a result, Magic Breaker's speed had decreased significantly, giving Alluring Summer enough time to retreat and barely avoid the short sword.

"Amazing!"

When Lifeless Thorn, who stood in the distance, saw this, he was astounded by Alluring Summer's control over the battlefield.

Alluring Summer waved her staff after dodging Shadowtooth's attack. Suddenly, numerous blue, basketball-sized Lightning Balls appeared around the Elementalist. A moment later, all 30-plus Lightning Balls bombarded Shadowtooth from multiple different directions.

The Assassin had no choice but to retreat temporarily.

But as if the Lightning balls had locked on to him, they moved towards his blind spots. In the end, even a Domain Realm expert like Shadowtooth was forced to activate Wind Steps, utilizing the moment of invulnerability to retreat.

*Why does Zero Wing have so many experts?*

Nine Dragons Emperor was stunned. He had never expected Zero Wing to have more people capable of forcing Shadowtooth back.

Elsewhere, Cola arrived to help Phoenix Rain, charging at the approaching Bloodhand Yama. Despite this, the man showed no signs of avoiding the Guardian Knight. Instead, he raised his shield and increased his speed.

One was a Shield Warrior, while the other was a Guardian Knight. Both players had high HP and Defense. Neither of them was afraid of a head-on collision.

*Boom!*

When the two shields collided, a powerful shockwave shook their surroundings, causing nearby players to shudder involuntarily.

Bloodhand Yama, who had been unstoppable thus far, had taken a step back. In contrast, Cola actually remained steady. The difference between their Strengths was obvious at a glance.

“Is this for real?! Someone actually stopped Bloodhand Yama?!”

The various superpowers watching the fight with their Magic Mirrors were shocked by Cola’s Strength. None could believe that someone had stopped the famous Bloodhand Yama.

Bloodhand Yama was famous for his violence in the virtual gaming world. He had always been a Shield Warrior and pursued brute strength. Unlike ordinary MTs, Bloodhand Yama focused on Strength when allocating his Free Attribute Points and selecting weapons and equipment. Moreover, in addition to his shield and double-headed axe, his chest piece, helmet, and gloves were Epic rank.

The man didn’t bother to hide his gear’s glow effects.

Yet, despite such excellent gear, he had lost a battle of Strength. It was simply inconceivable!

## Chapter 1492 – Dragon Slayer’s Power

After getting repulsed by Cola, Bloodhand Yama did not evince even the slightest bit of anger or frustration. On the contrary, he licked his lips and revealed an excited expression. Immediately after, he raised his shield and charged at Cola again.

This time, however, he did not go for a frontal assault.

Instead, just when Bloodhand Yama was about to clash with Cola, he suddenly changed his footwork, generating an afterimage in his original location as he circled around and avoided Cola’s charge, leaving the Guardian Knight to hit only air. Immediate after, Bloodhand Yama appeared on Cola’s right, the double-headed axe in his hand striking down at Cola’s side-abdomen, which was not protected by the Guardian Knight’s shield, with lightning speed.

*Dang!*

Following which, a crisp clang resounded in the surroundings. Dazzling sparks flew as well.

At the critical moment, Cola had managed to shift his body sufficiently to allow his one-handed sword to block Bloodhand Yama’s attack. Meanwhile, as a result of this clash, Bloodhand Yama staggered back a step.

*Bloodhand Yama's Doppelganger Slash actually got blocked? Phoenix Rain, who had initially been preparing to help Cola, could not help but be surprised by this scene. Just how much strength is Zero Wing hiding?*

She originally thought she had a very clear understanding of Cola's strength. Meanwhile, as far as she knew, Cola was definitely not strong enough to go up against Bloodhand Yama, even though he was the lead MT of Zero Wing's main force and possessed quite respectable Basic Attributes.

However, with the facts placed before her, she had no choice but to admit that her understanding was inadequate.

In reality, Phoenix Rain wasn't the only person surprised by this outcome; the Flower of Seven Sins members and Nine Dragons Emperor were similarly shocked. Right now, two of their most powerful members were actually stopped. Moreover, Bloodhand Yama's distraction gave Phoenix Rain and the others an opportunity to focus on dealing with the other members of the Flower of Seven Sins.

Only Shi Feng found this outcome to be natural.

After all, Cola and Alluring Summer had both obtained the Dragon Slayer Legacy. The Dragon Slayer Legacy was a relatively special Legacy. Unlike other Legacies, it did not provide players with any elaborate Skills or Spells. However, it was a Legacy that was upgradable. If the Legacy were fully upgraded, it would not be the slightest bit inferior to a Peak Legacy.

The reason for this was the Dragon Power players received when obtaining the Dragon Slayer Legacy. The denser the Dragon Power inside a player's body was, the greater the power they would be able to exhibit. Legends had it that the power of the strongest Dragon Slayer in history surpassed even that of Dragons.



Now that Cola and Alluring Summer had become Dragon Slayers, their Life Ratings were superior to that of Tier 2 players. Hence, their Basic Attributes, physiques, and reaction speeds were not something players of the same level and tier could compare to. These Attributes would only become increasingly stronger as Cola and Alluring Summer obtained more Dragon Origin Crystals. At that time, their Life Ratings would be able to reach the same level as Dragons.

In God's Domain, Dragons were the symbol of death and destruction. If players could achieve a Life Rating equal to Dragons, one could just imagine how strong they could become. They could easily overwhelm even players that had Demonized.

Meanwhile, on Thunder Island, which prevented players from using Berserk Skills, Cola's and Alluring Summer's Basic Attributes were most likely inferior to only Shi Feng's own. As for their physiques, theirs were even slightly superior to his own. This was the reason Shi Feng had tasked the two of them with opening up a path for the team.

In terms of techniques, Bloodhand Yama and Shadowtooth indeed possessed an overwhelming advantage over Cola and Alluring Summer. However, the difference in tiers and the power of the Dragon Slayer class were more than enough to offset the difference in techniques and allow Cola and Alluring Summer to just barely surpass the two Domain Realm experts.

With Bloodhand Yama tied down, Phoenix Rain and Blue Phoenix were able to coordinate their attacks with each other and relentlessly reduce the member count of the Flower of Seven Sins. At this rate, it was only a matter of time before Phoenix Rain's team broke out of the encirclement.

"Dragon Pavilion Master, Zero Wing has really hidden a lot of its power. With Phoenix Rain's capabilities, I'm afraid it'll take only another minute or two for her team to escape the encirclement," Undead said, chuckling as he looked at the distant Flower of Seven Sins members fighting. "Are you really sure you don't need my help?"

Hearing Undead's words, Nine Dragons Emperor gritted his teeth and said, "Fine! As long as you can pin down Phoenix Rain's team here, I'll give that item to you!"

Although he had managed to invite Bloody Paradise to aid him, getting Undead to personally take action was a whole other story.

However, with the situation having reached this point, he couldn't care less about paying the additional cost right now.

If he failed to get rid of Phoenix Rain in this favorable terrain, doing so would become much more difficult afterwards.

"Thanks a lot," Undead said, smiling faintly. He then started pacing slowly towards the battlefield.

Upon Undead's entry into the battlefield, the Bloody Paradise members suddenly underwent a change. As if they had entered into a frenzy, they disregarded all costs to open up a path for Undead.

As for Undead himself, he chanted an incantation as he walked forward. Suddenly, a pitch-black magic array appeared in the sky, enveloping half of the battlefield. The ambient Mana then began surging towards the magic array, forming numerous pitch-black spears.

Tier 1 Curse, Dark Feathers!

"Disappear!" Undead swung down his staff.

Suddenly, several hundred pitch-black spears descended from the skies. As if they possessed a life of their own, these pitch-black spears all struck at the defensive blind spots of the enemy players.

Each spear carried the power of a Tier 1 Peak attack. Even MTs with high Defense and Magic Resistance lost over 6,000 HP when struck. As for the other classes, they received over -10,000 damage from each spear.

In the blink of an eye, the pitch-black spears killed over a dozen players, who failed to defend themselves properly. Even Solitary Nine, who possessed the Titan Guard, could not repulse every spear sent at him and ended up getting struck eight times. If not for him activating Titan's Heart, his HP would've long since ended up at a critical level.

"Who is that man?" Cleansing Whistle's expression darkened considerably when she stared at Undead.

She felt that Undead was simply too terrifying. After all, the man had actually managed to control hundreds of pitch-black spears simultaneously, making the spears move as if they were alive.

Fortunately, she stood quite a distance from Undead and got struck by only three spears. Had she been any closer to the Elementalist, she might've lost her life already.

*So this is the 11th ranking expert on the God's Domain Experts List?* Gentle Snow's expression turned grim as she looked at Undead moving slowly in her direction.

With her Basic Attributes and combat standards, she would be able to handle a dozen or so of those pitch-black spears simultaneously at most. If she had to go up against more than a hundred of those spears, however, she would most likely have to activate the Seven Luminaries Battle Armor's Active Skill, Sky God's Glory, in order to survive.

Not to mention, Undead had only used one Spell thus far, yet he had already wreaked so much devastation. If they allowed the Elementalist to continue casting Spells freely, the consequences would definitely be unimaginable.

Phoenix Rain, who was currently fending off the Flower of Seven Sins members, also wore a grim expression when she saw Undead entering the battlefield.

Undead was nicknamed the Devil's Hand. The man was capable of exhibiting any Spell or Skill to its fullest potential. Moreover, his ability to control the situation of a battlefield was peerless. He was most suited to group battles. Individually, he was also much stronger than old monsters like Bloodhand Yama and Shadowtooth. It was precisely because of Undead that even Ku Rong, the Great Pavilion Master of the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion, feared Bloody Paradise greatly.

"Rain, stop your futile resistance and just obediently accept your fate!" Nine Dragons Emperor said mockingly when he saw the tides of the battle turning in his favor.

He was fully aware of just how powerful Undead was. Even Martial Dragon, who had grasped a Domain, could survive against Undead for only a short time.

Moreover, both sides were currently intermingled, making it impossible for anyone to use large-scale destruction Spells without resulting in friendly fire. In such a situation, Undead, an Elementalist capable of freely controlling his Spells, was practically a godlike existence.

"Guild Leader, should I head over there?" Aqua Rose suggested. At the moment, she was going up against more than three Refinement Realm experts simultaneously. However, seeing Undead and Bloody Paradise's members getting out of control, she decided it was more important to deal with them first.

"No need. Your Spells have too much AOE. They're not suitable for this narrow and chaotic battlefield. I'll deal with him," Shi Feng said, shaking his head before dashing towards Undead.

## Chapter 1493 – One-on-Two

On the chaotic battlefield, although Bloody Paradise's members numbered only around 60, the presence of Undead elevated the overall strength of the team by a significant margin.

The reason for this was Undead's ability to aid his allies during their time of need. At the same time, he was also capable of creating gaps for these allies to strike at their opponents. He was like the overlord of the battlefield, and even Shi Feng could not help but feel admiration for Undead's capabilities.

Undead could not only achieve absolute control over the battlefield with his Spells but also freely manipulate his enemies on the battlefield.

It was precisely because of this talent of his that the Secret Pavilion had nicknamed him the Devil's Hand.

When Shi Feng entered within 60 yards of Undead, over twenty Fireballs and Ice Spears suddenly flew at him. To Shi Feng, however, attacks of this degree did not even warrant him blocking them. Making a slight change to his footwork, he easily maneuvered his way out of the attack trajectory of these Spells.

While he was swiftly making his way towards Undead, three sword lights suddenly cut at him.

Not only were these three slashes angled so that they sealed off Shi Feng's path of advancement, but they also prevented him from evading them, leaving him with no choice but to receive them with his swords.

*Dang! Dang! Dang!*

Shi Feng promptly blocked the three slashes before they could even get within five yards of him. Immediately after, the shadow of a figure descended from the sky. At the same time, a towering pillar of flames also descended directly towards Shi Feng.

Flame Slash!

However, Shi Feng, who was capable of pushing his five senses to their very limits, had long since noticed this attack. Twisting his body, he executed an upward Chop, sending three black arcs of light to counter the descending Flame Slash.

*Boom!*

When the intense flames collided with the three converging slashes of Shi Feng's Chop, a powerful shockwave spread to the surroundings.

As the shockwave spread, it also repulsed the descending figure, which landed roughly six yards away from Shi Feng.

"Is there a need for the almighty commander of the War Dragon Legion to make such petty little moves?" Shi Feng glanced at the figure before him.

This figure belonged to none other than Martial Dragon, the commander of the War Dragon Legion. He was also Nine Dragons Emperor's most trusted aide.

At this moment, Martial Dragon wielded a silver greatsword engraved with crimson runes and wore silvery-gray battle armor. He had also reached Level 49 already and was not one bit inferior when compared to Phoenix Rain. Moreover, if one paid close attention to Martial Dragon's body, they would notice that the number of Epic Equipment he possessed was not one bit inferior to Bloodhand Yama's.

Notably, the greatsword Martial Dragon wielded, which was named Silver Snow, was the 17th ranking sword among God's Domain's 36 Famed Swords. At the same time, it was also Martial Dragon's trademark in Shi Feng's previous life.

Despite Silver Snow being ranked only slightly higher than Killing Ray, due to it being a two-handed sword, it possessed significantly more power than Killing Ray.

"As expected of Zero Wing's Honorary Elder. You've managed to block my attack even under such circumstances." Martial Dragon was not the slightest bit agitated by Shi Feng's mocking words. On the contrary, he laughed and said, "However, with me here, nobody will be able to approach Undead."

If anybody else spoke these words, they would definitely be laughed at for their foolishness. However, when Martial Dragon said them, nobody on the battlefield felt anything wrong with them.

Since Martial Dragon was a Domain Realm expert of the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion, no player or power dared to look down on him.

"Then, you'll have to be able to stop me first." Saying so, Shi Feng executed Void Steps and disappeared from everyone's vision.

Undead's presence was like a Berserk Potion. If he did not stop the man now, the damage that Undead and Bloody Paradise's members could cause would be no laughing matter.

Originally, Shi Feng had thought to use a Silencing Skill. However, the uniqueness of the battlefield on Thunder Island did not just prevent players from using Berserk Skills. Silencing Skills were similarly ineffective on Thunder Island. Hence, he had no choice but to personally take action now.

"Don't even think of getting past me so easily!"

At the same time as Shi Feng disappeared, Martial Dragon's greatsword seemingly extended itself as a silver beam of light shot out from the weapon and landed at a location roughly ten yards away from Martial Dragon. When the beam struck, it left behind a deep gash on the ground.

Meanwhile, Shi Feng had also suddenly appeared before this gash.

*Sure enough, Void Steps is utterly useless against Domain Realm experts.* Sending a glance at Martial Dragon, who remained standing in his original position, Shi Feng decided to give up on dealing with Undead first.

Domain Realm experts were capable of not only pushing their five senses to their very limits but also observing their surroundings from a third person's perspective. Void Steps was footwork specifically meant to trick the opponent's sense of sight only. Hence, fooling Martial Dragon with Void Steps was simply impossible. The only reason Shi Feng had even tried executing the footwork was in the hopes that it would delay Martial Dragon's reaction by even a moment.

Now, however, it would seem that Void Steps was incapable of doing even that.



“What? Giving up already?” Martial Dragon chuckled as he looked at his motionless opponent.

In response, Shi Feng simply continued silently observing Martial Dragon.

Compared to the fact that Martial Dragon was a Domain Realm expert, Shi Feng was more wary of the greatsword in the Berserker’s hands.

As one of the 36 Famed Swords of God’s Domain, Silver Snow possessed special hidden effects, just like the Abyssal Blade did. While the Abyssal Blade could gather the surrounding Mana around its user, Silver Snow could extend the range of its attacks.

Of course, this extension was not without limits. However, it still gave Martial Dragon a maximum attack range of 15 yards. Although this hidden effect could be maintained for only extremely short intervals, it was already more than enough for an expert player.

When experts fought, they would always gauge their opponent’s attack range before going in for an attack. If the other side could suddenly extend their attack range, one could just imagine the effect it would have on a battle. Meanwhile, being able to extend his attack range up to 15 yards allowed Martial Dragon to cover more ground in his defense. This was also the reason why the Berserker had spoken such boastful words earlier.

Moreover, this attack extension was still not the most powerful aspect of Silver Snow, which instead lay in its ability to execute two-stage attacks. The Famed Sword was capable of saving up to ten cuts made before for 15 seconds. Any enemy that came into contact with these cuts would receive damage. This was also the only Skill Silver Snow possessed, Broken Mark. Aside from Broken Mark, Silver Snow possessed no other Skills. Meanwhile, it was also precisely due to this Skill that Silver Snow ranked 17th among God’s Domain’s 36 Famed Swords.

In other words, Martial Dragon could set up invisible traps anywhere within 15 yards of himself. Hence, not only did Shi Feng need to be careful of Martial Dragon's attacks while fighting, but he also needed to avoid stepping anywhere the Berserker had cut before.

"Since you're not coming, I'll head over to you instead!" Martial Dragon had no intention of dragging out this fight. Upon seeing his opponent remaining unresponsive, he immediately activated Charge on Shi Feng.

At this moment, Undead, who was slowly making his way towards Phoenix Rain, also took notice of Shi Feng. He immediately began chanting incantations, summoning an Ice Wall to help Martial Dragon block off Shi Feng's path of retreat and at the same time sending a Tier 1 Flame Barrage at Shi Feng's defensive blind spot.

Both Martial Dragon and Undead were Domain Realm experts, and both were capable of clearly perceiving every one of Shi Feng's movements. Hence, when facing the attacks of these two experts, Shi Feng would have no choice but to receive their attacks, as dodging was simply impossible.

*How despicable! Those two actually have the gall to work together!* When Gentle Snow saw Martial Dragon and Undead ganging up on Shi Feng, she wanted to move in and help Shi Feng. However, Blood Dragon and two other Refinement Realm experts had her thoroughly pinned down.

As for Shi Feng, his two opponents were similarly extraordinary players capable of going up against a Great Lord of the same level. Despite Shi Feng having the advantage in Basic Attributes, if he was not careful when dealing with their attacks, they would kill him very easily.

Just when Martial Dragon's Silver Snow and Undead's barrage of fireballs were about to descend on Shi Feng, Shi Feng tightened his grip on his two swords and executed Sword's Orbit.

Suddenly, the Ice Wall behind him and the sword lights and fireballs before him were all shattered by Sword's Orbit.

“What powerful Attributes!” Undead was slightly surprised when he saw his Ice Wall shattered. Very quickly, however, he switched his attack method and executed triple-casting. Smiling faintly, he said, “Let’s see how you deal with this move!”

Suddenly, several magic arrays appeared around Shi Feng. From the ground, an Earthen Spike emerged. From the sky, a Lightning Strike descended. From his surroundings, numerous Ice Spears stabbed at Shi Feng simultaneously.

Meanwhile, Martial Dragon also did not hold back as he executed the Berserker class’s strongest Tier 1 Skill, Indiscriminate Slash. Suddenly, numerous streaks of silver light interweaved, forming a wall that pushed towards Shi Feng.

This overwhelming attack pattern made the scalps of everyone present on the battlefield tingle.

Just when these attacks were about to land on Shi Feng, however, Shi Feng abruptly stabbed Killing Ray into the ground.

Summon Lightning!

Suddenly, arcs of lightning spread out to Shi Feng’s surroundings, instantly obliterating the attacks of Undead and Martial Dragon.

“What a powerful Skill!” Martial Dragon was somewhat surprised by this outcome. He had never thought that Shi Feng would possess a Skill capable of wiping out other Skills. Nevertheless, he laughed in the next moment and said, “However, I’m sure you can use this Skill of yours only once.”

He and Undead were capable of executing their coordinated attack again after a short Cooldown. They could even switch the Skills and Spells they used and execute other attack patterns. They did not need to rely on powerful Skills like Shi Feng did to defend and attack.

“While it is indeed true that I can only use this Skill once within a certain period of time, if the two of you can’t coordinate with each other again, then it doesn’t really matter,” Shi Feng retorted, smiling calmly. He then activated Phantom Kill and Nine Dragons Slash.

#### Chapter 1494 – One-hit Kill

The instant Shi Feng activated his Skills, the doppelganger created from Phantom Kill immediately activated Wind Blade and made its way towards Undead, while the sixteen Abyssal Blade phantoms summoned by Nine Dragons Slash shot towards Martial Dragon, giving the two no opportunities to react at all.

Domain Realm experts were already difficult opponents to deal with, in the first place.

With Martial Dragon and Undead now working together, dodging their combination attacks was simply impossible. Undead’s Spells, in particular, accurately targeted the weaknesses in Shi Feng’s defenses. After including Martial Dragon’s assistance, the combined assault had already exceeded Sword’s Orbit’s defensive capabilities.

Hence, the only thing Shi Feng could do now was have his doppelganger distract Undead while using ranged attacks to deal with Martial Dragon, who was fond of melee combat.

“A doppelganger?”

Undead simply smiled when he saw Shi Feng’s doppelganger moving towards him. Immediately, he started triple-casting again.

Earthen Spear!

Ice Blast!

Flame Imprint!

All three Spells were Tier 1 Spells. Earthen Spear was meant to limit the target’s movements, Ice Blast served as a frontal attack and inflicted a Movement Speed debuff, and Flame Imprint was an aerial attack aimed at the target’s defensive blind spot. Under Undead’s control, the combination of the three Spells became an ultimate move that would kill Undead’s target with almost absolute certainty.

Meanwhile, players usually needed to personally control their doppelgangers. If the player did not devote full concentration to controlling their doppelgangers, said doppelgangers would not exhibit their full potential. Moreover, doppelgangers normally had weaker Basic Attributes than the main body. Hence, in Undead’s opinion, it was simply a joke for Shi Feng to send his doppelganger at him.

Elsewhere, the sixteen Abyssal Blade phantoms were like nonexistent when going up against Martial Dragon. Despite Shi Feng executing Sword’s Orbit with the sword phantoms, Martial Dragon managed to evade the attacks sent at him while maintaining a fixed distance from Shi Feng, keeping Shi Feng within the attack range of his Silver Snow.

“Do you really think you can kill Undead with just a doppelganger? You’ll just get yourself killed even quicker by splitting your attention!”

Noticing Shi Feng’s attention wavering slightly, Martial Dragon took advantage of this opportunity to advance abruptly. Suddenly, Martial Dragon disappeared from where he stood, the ground that the Berserker had been standing on shattering from the thrust of his feet. In the next moment, twelve doppelgangers of Martial Dragon formed around Shi Feng, all twelve of them stabbing their greatswords at the surrounded Swordsman.

Tier 1 Taboo Skill, Dragontooth!

If Shi Feng were currently going up against an ordinary expert, even if he split his attention between himself and his doppelganger, he would not have any problems dealing with the said expert. However, his opponent right now was Martial Dragon. Splitting his attention right now resulted in him exposing even more weak points.

*Dragontooth?!* Shi Feng was surprised. He never thought that Martial Dragon had actually learned the Berserker class’s Dragontooth Skill.

Dragontooth was the fastest Tier 1 Skill for Berserkers. Moreover, every attack dealt by the Skill carried double the Strength of the user. If this Skill struck Shi Feng, the consequences would be unimaginable.

“Die!” Martial Dragon shouted.

If Shi Feng had been going all-out, with his superior Attributes, he could easily dodge the majority of Martial Dragon’s attacks. However, doing so was much more difficult now that he was splitting his attention between himself and his doppelganger.

Just when the twelve attacks were about to land on him, Shi Feng instinctively activated Defensive Blade.

In the next moment, the twelve streaks of silver light rapidly approaching Shi Feng stopped abruptly an inch away from his body.

However, Martial Dragon had long since anticipated this move. He promptly leaped high up into the air before slamming his greatsword downwards, his entire person seemingly having transformed into a meteor as he plunged towards Shi Feng.

Tier 1 Taboo Skill, Falling Star!

This move was the sole Tier 1 AOE Skill available to Berserkers. Although the Skill had a modest radius of only 10 yards, any enemy within that 10-yard radius would be dealt a devastating blow. Moreover, all players struck would have their Movement Speed reduced by 80% and reaction speed, by 50%.

After Falling Star descended, the ground Shi Feng stood on immediately cratered. The surrounding players shuddered involuntarily as they looked at the fiery and smoky pit.

“So strong!” Lifeless Thorn, who was fighting a short distance away, was indescribably shocked when he saw this scene.

Martial Dragon had completed his two-pronged attack so quickly and smoothly that it looked as if it was just one, big attack to Lifeless Thorn. There was no lag in between the two attacks whatsoever.

“Rain, now that Zero Wing’s Ye Feng has been killed, I want to see just how long you will continue struggling!” Nine Dragons Emperor sneered when he saw Shi Feng disappearing completely.

In Phoenix Rain’s team, Ye Feng was undoubtedly the strongest player. He was also one of the few players capable of going up against Martial Dragon. Now that Ye Feng had already been killed, Phoenix Rain’s team would have a hard time stopping Martial Dragon.

However, as soon as Nine Dragons Emperor was done speaking, Shi Feng’s doppelganger, whose HP had previously fallen to a critical level from Undead’s relentless attacks, suddenly recovered back to full HP.

*How is this possible? Did he switch places with his doppelganger?* Undead was slightly confused when he saw Shi Feng’s doppelganger recovering back to full HP. However, he very quickly realized what had happened. He immediately swung his staff and summoned an Ice Wall to block Shi Feng, then smiled and said, “Although you managed to find your way over, you are simply throwing your life away. Without your Lifesaving Skill, how are you going to block this move of mine?”

As Undead said so, a pitch-black magic array formed beneath Shi Feng’s feet. Pitch-black barriers then emerged from it. In the next moment, these barriers began twisting and constricting the space Shi Feng was in.

This move was not a Spell Undead had learned. Rather, it was an Additional Skill, Dark Illumination, of Hell King’s Eye, the staff he wielded.

When activated, the Skill would freeze the space around the targeted area, preventing players caught within its range from moving. Afterwards, the frozen space would be obliterated. Although the Skill’s AOE was not particularly large, it was much stronger than ordinary large-scale destruction Spells.

“Turn to dust!” Undead tapped the butt of his staff on the ground.



*Boom!*

Suddenly, the space Shi Feng was in shattered like a mirror.

“Why bother?” Martial Dragon sighed when he looked at the shattered space.

Although he had not sensed Shi Feng switching positions with his doppelganger, a frontal confrontation with an Elementalist like Undead was pure suicide. Even Martial Dragon himself did not dare to approach Undead in a fight.

The reason for this was because the closer the range, the shorter the distance Undead’s Spells needed to travel. With Undead’s perfect control over his Spells, even Martial Dragon would find himself overwhelmed if he stood within 10 yards of the Elementalist.

After the space around Shi Feng was utterly obliterated, just as Undead turned his focus towards Aqua Rose and Alluring Summer, a playful voice suddenly entered his ears.

“That’s it?”

Undead whirled back to look at Shi Feng’s original location, a grim expression suddenly appearing on his face.

At this moment, Shi Feng could still be seen actually standing in the shattered space. Moreover, he was entirely unscathed. Even his HP remained at 100%.

“How is this possible? Is it invulnerability?” Undead’s gaze turned serious as he studied the faint, golden barrier enveloping Shi Feng’s body.

Invulnerability Skills with long durations were exceedingly rare in God’s Domain. Even the various Super Guilds had only a few people with such Skills. He had never thought that Shi Feng would actually have one.

“That’s right,” Shi Feng said, laughing. He then moved straight towards Undead.

Although Undead tried to cast a Spell to stop Shi Feng, the latter had already disappeared from where he stood. Then, Shi Feng popped up right in front of Undead.

Tier 2 Taboo Skill, Instant Strike!

Although Undead reacted rapidly and had immediately used Blink to distance himself from Shi Feng, the moment before he disappeared, a blue flash cut across his body.

In the next moment, Undead’s body appeared at a location 15 yards away. At this time, however, a flower of blood had already bloomed on Undead’s chest. As for Undead himself, he was like a puppet that had its strings cut, his body collapsing powerlessly to the ground.

“So fast!”

“Commander?!”

“How is this possible?!”

The members of Bloody Paradise were stupefied when they saw Undead’s HP bottoming out.

#### Chapter 1495 – Twelve Firmaments

Without Instant Strike, Shi Feng would definitely have a hard time killing Domain Realm experts. This was especially true on a chaotic battlefield where he couldn’t use any of his Berserk Skills. With the support of expert healers, his enemy could easily retreat and recover if he didn’t finish the enemy off quickly enough. In the end, they would fight an endless battle of attrition.

This wasn’t the outcome Shi Feng wanted. His team lost members with each passing second; in a drawn-out battle, he would lose.

Meanwhile, Instant Strike had a limited range and a very long Cooldown. With how far apart Martial Dragon and Undead stood from each other, Shi Feng could only use the Skill to finish one of them off.

Between the two Domain Realm experts, Shi Feng had decided to deal with Undead, who posed the greatest threat to his team. In fact, he had sent his doppelganger to harass Undead precisely to set up an opportunity to use Instant Strike against the Elementalist. However, Undead was quite intelligent. The Elementalist had maintained a certain distance from his doppelganger, attacking from his maximum range.

However, when Undead had assumed Shi Feng had died, he had relaxed, giving Shi Feng the opportunity he needed.

Even so, he had nearly allowed Undead to get away. Fortunately, he had triggered Killing Ray's Lightning effect, increasing his initial Attack Speed to 50% of the maximum.

When Undead collapsed, Bloody Paradise's members were dumbfounded.

Undead was the adventurer team's pillar of strength. Now that this pillar had fallen, the remaining members had lost their will to fight. All that was left was horror.

They were especially afraid of that Swordsman's frightening strike.

Before they had realized what was happening, their commander had lost his life. Although Undead was only an Elementalist, he had more than 30,000 HP.

Yet, Shi Feng had devoured every hit point in one hit. In other words, this Swordsman could instant-kill any cloth-armor class on the battlefield. He could even take out MTs with high HP and Defense in two or three hits...

*How is he so fast?!* Nine Dragons Emperor, who watched proudly from a distance, wore a grim expression as he watched Shi Feng.

Most of the experts on the battlefield might not have understood what had just happened, but he had caught a glimpse.

The instant Shi Feng had appeared before Undead, the latter had activated Blink to escape, yet not even the Skill's instantaneous activation could take full effect before Shi Feng completed his slash.

This godlike Attack Speed was simply unheard of.

If he allowed Shi Feng to get close to him...

Nine Dragons Emperor felt a chill crawl down his spine.

"This is the commander's true strength?"

"How strong is he?! Not even such a powerful Elementalist could escape the commander after activating Blink!"

Solitary Nine and the other Asura members were shocked when they saw Shi Feng's enemies afraid, keeping their distance from the Swordsman.

Asura's members dreamed of achieving such a feat.

However, while everyone watched Shi Feng in shock, Nine Dragons Emperor finally made his move. A dark-gray longbow, engraved with magical patterns, appeared in his left hand. The Mana around Nine Dragons Emperor surged towards the weapon.

At the same time, Nine Dragons Emperor retrieved an arrow covered in magical, crimson patterns from his bag. The magic patterns on the longbow and arrow seemed similar. It was obvious that they were a part of a set.

“Pavilion Master?!” Martial Dragon was surprised as he watched his Pavilion Master pull out the weapon and ammo.

The longbow in Nine Dragons Emperor’s hand was called Star Shatterer, a very special Magic Weapon. When used with its paired arrow, the longbow would gain the Additional Skill, Twelve Firmaments. When activated, the Skill would launch twelve attacks simultaneously, each of which had enough power to wound a Grand Lord of the same level. Moreover, the twelve attacks were impossible to dodge. The attacks would even break through invulnerability. It was an ultimate move that could only be used once every ten hours.

Not even the Great Pavilion Master knew about Nine Dragons Emperor’s Star Shatterer. He had initially planned to save this trump card for Thunder Island’s powerful Guardian Bosses. Martial Dragon had never expected the Heavenly Dragon Pavilion Master to use the longbow against Shi Feng.

“Die!”

Nine Dragons Emperor pulled back Star Shatterer’s bowstring, stretching the weapon into a full circle. He aimed for Shi Feng, who stood nearly 100 yards away, before activating Twelve Firmaments.

The Ranger class already had the longest attack range of all of the various ranged classes. However, even after reaching Tier 1, Rangers only had a maximum attack range of 52 yards, yet Twelve Firmaments could double that range, locking onto targets up to 104 yards away.

*Xiu! Xiu! Xiu!*

Suddenly, the crimson arrow Nine Dragons Emperor had knocked split into twelve streaks of dark-blue light that flew towards Shi Feng. As these arrows moved, they tore through space as if tearing through paper, leaving one spatial rip after another in their wake.

After killing Undead, Shi Feng had planned to take advantage of the shock to take down a few more enemies around him, but when he caught sight of Nine Dragons Emperor's longbow from the corner of his eye, a chill crawled down his spine.

Star Shatterer had been incredibly famous in his previous life. The longbow ranked 28th on the Magic Weapon Ranking List in God's Domain. In the hands of a Tier 2 player, the weapon would even injure a Mythic monster of the same level.

Only, Shi Feng hadn't realized that Nine Dragons Emperor had obtained Star Shatterer so early in the game.

Upon seeing the twelve arrows flying from Nine Dragons Emperor's longbow, Shi Feng instinctively activated Void Shield, a protective barrier capable of absorbing damage equal to ten times his maximum HP. He then executed Sword's Orbit to deflect the incoming arrows.

Once the attack had locked on, Twelve Firmaments would follow him wherever he went; he had no choice but to take the attacks head-on.

Fortunately, Instant Strike was still in effect. Immediately, a galaxy of stars formed around him, clashing with the twelve streaks of dark-blue light.

*Boom! Boom! Boom!*

Each attack pushed Shi Feng several yards back. By the time he blocked the twelfth attack, he was 60 yards from where he has started, and his Void Shield had shattered.

Shi Feng's HP fell like there was no tomorrow.

90%... 70%... 50%...

When he eventually stopped sliding backward, his HP bar stabilized.

*He's not dead?! How is that possible?!* Nine Dragons Emperor flashed Shi Feng an incredulous look. He simply could not believe that his attack, which could even wound a Grand Lord, had failed to kill Shi Feng.

Moreover, although Shi Feng looked fairly miserable, even sporting a cut on his cheek from the pressure of the attack, he still had over 20% of his HP.

*The Twelve Firmaments is really no joke.* Shi Feng smiled bitterly as he glanced down at his numb hands.

If not for his Strength, which even exceeded a Great Lord's of the same level, Void Shield, and sufficient reaction speed that attack would've taken his life.

"Everyone, pay attention! Miracle's forces are heading this way! If we can hold out for a little while longer, victory will be ours!" Nine Dragons Emperor declared. "Anyone who kills Phoenix Rain will



receive a piece of Level 50 Dark-Gold Equipment! I'll also reward anybody who kills Ye Feng 1,000 Magic Crystals and a piece of Level 50 Dark-Gold Equipment!"

Nine Dragons Emperor hadn't thought that he'd encounter anyone who could threaten his life, but after watching Shi Feng take Undead's, he no longer felt safe. If he did not get rid of Shi Feng now, and the man's Skills finished their Cooldowns, the consequences would be unimaginable. He had to prioritize the Swordsman's death, forcing him to lose a level and a piece of equipment.

If an expert of Shi Feng's caliber lost a piece of equipment that he was particularly compatible with, his combat power would plummet. Only then would Nine Dragons Emperor's mind be at peace.

Of course, killing Shi Feng multiple times would be the best outcome.

"Level 50 Dark-Gold Equipment?!"

"All hail the Pavilion Master!"

Hearing Nine Dragons Emperor's announcement, many of the players on his team turned towards Shi Feng, eager to earn the rewards.

When Phoenix Rain's team members heard the declaration, they were confused. They weren't surprised by the bounty on Phoenix Rain's head, but he had also placed an even higher bounty on Shi Feng's. The Phoenix Pavilion members didn't understand why Nine Dragons Emperor would prioritize the Swordsman's death over Phoenix Rain's.

However, what truly made Phoenix Rain's team members despair was the news that Miracle's members had almost reached the battlefield, coming to assist their enemy.

*He's already colluded with Miracle?* Shi Feng felt pressed for time as he watched his enemies' morale recover. He shifted his gaze towards Bloodhand Yama and the other Flower of Seven Sins' members. *It seems that I can't afford to hold back any longer!*

As Shi Feng made his way towards Bloodhand Yama, he activated Divine Steps to nullify the incoming attacks from the enemy experts around him. Both of his hands were still numb, and the best he could do was maintain his grip on his weapons, much less deflect an attack.

A moment later, Shi Feng reached Phoenix Rain's section of the battlefield. He stabbed the Abyssal Blade into the ground and activated the evolved Abyssal Curse.

#### Chapter 1496 – One Move, One Kill

As Abyssal Curse activated, a large, pitch-black magic array appeared beneath the Flower of Seven Sins' members. Black fog rose from the array, tangling around the expert players and restricting their movements. Moreover, they received a debuff that reduced their Basic Attributes by 20% for 10 minutes.

Although the Flower of Seven Sins members had reacted very quickly and immediately activated their Control Removal Skills, breaking free of the fog, the 20% reduction to their Basic Attributes decreased their combat power significantly.

The Flower of Seven Sins' MTs, in particular, watched their HPs drain as they tried to protect their DPS experts. Even with the support of numerous healers, their HP bars steadily fell.

Even Bloodhand Yama, who had been overwhelming Cola, found himself on the defensive.

*What a powerful Control Skill!* Phoenix Rain shot Shi Feng a glance after seeing the assassin group's combat power decrease drastically. She had never thought that Shi Feng still had such a trump card.

In one move, Shi Feng had turned the tide of battle.

In reality, he hadn't wanted to reveal this move.

Abyssal Curse would work wonders in a large battle where players couldn't use tools, Berserker Skills, or Silencing Skills, but there were many superpowers fighting for control of Thunder Island. The designated contest area wasn't particularly large, so it was easy for the different powers to encounter each other. Meanwhile, Abyssal Curse had a 20-minute Cooldown. If his team met another superpower during the Cooldown, he'd have one less trump card.

When Nine Dragons Emperor saw the results of Shi Feng's attack, his expression darkened.

The Flower of Seven Sins members already had a numerical disadvantage against the Phoenix Pavilion's team. They had to rely on their MTs and healers to hold on. Now that their Basic Attributes had decreased, they would have a much harder time holding back Phoenix Rain and her people.

"Martial, take some men to help Bloodhand! Do not let Phoenix Rain's group break free of the encirclement!" Nine Dragons Emperor commanded.

Thanks to Shi Feng's move, the Flower of Seven Sins suffered one casualty after another. At this rate, Phoenix Rain's team would escape in less than a minute. If that happened, it'd become much harder to take her team down.

“Understood!”

Upon receiving his orders, Martial Dragon led 30-plus melee players, who still had a fair amount of their HP, to the Flower of Seven Sins’ corner of the battlefield.

Although Gentle Snow and Zhao Yueru tried their best to stop Martial Dragon when they tried to move across the field, Martial Dragon easily evaded the Skills and Spells sent his way. When he couldn’t dodge an attack, he blocked it with a casual swing of his greatsword. The healers in the rear quickly replenished any HP he lost.

Meanwhile, Phoenix Rain’s team put everything they had into assaulting the Flower of Seven Sins’ members, who were on the defense, hoping to break free of the battlefield as quickly as possible.

“Don’t even dream of getting past us!” When Bloodhand Yama saw that less than 30 players remained on his team, he gritted his teeth and activated the Tier 1 Taboo Skill for Shield Warriors, Iron Fortress.

Suddenly, with Bloodhand Yama in the center, a silver glow enveloped all of his teammates within a 30-yard radius. The affected players instantly received a buff that decreased incoming damage by 30% and increased their maximum HP by 15%. As for Bloodhand Yama, he received a buff that decreased incoming damage by 40% while increasing his maximum HP by 20%. Both buffs had a 12-minute duration.

Not only did Iron Fortress alleviate some of the pressure on the healers, but the affected players’ HPs also began to increase despite the bombardment they received.

“Good! As expected of Bloodhand Yama!” Nine Dragons Emperor, who helped Martial Dragon open a path, rejoiced when he saw the Flower of Seven Sins’ members recover.

Suddenly, a shadow appeared before Bloodhand Yama’s teammates. A scorching streak of light then sliced through the flank of a Level 47 Guardian Knight. Although the Guardian Knight had sensed the incoming attack, he hadn’t been able to respond quickly enough.

*Peng!*

The Level 47 Guardian Knight, who had more than half of his HP remaining, lost every point instantly, shock coloring his features as he stared at the figure before him.

The figure was none other than Shi Feng.

After a few seconds of rest, his hands had recovered, and the allied healers had restored his HP.

Before the Guardian Knight had hit the ground, Shi Feng appeared before a Level 48 Berserker. Although the Berserker tried to hack at the Swordsman with his battle axe, Shi Feng easily blocked the weapon with the Abyssal Blade. Killing Ray, which radiated a scorching heat, mercilessly pierced the Berserker’s heart, Flame Burst’s power turning the player into a pile of smoldering ash instantly.

Shi Feng then attacked a nearby Shield Warrior.

By the time Shi Feng used all 15 attack counts, he had killed eight Flower of Seven Sins members, instantly reducing the organization’s survivors to 19...

The players nearby gasped at the scene.

Even the weakest Flower of Seven Sins member present was a Refinement Realm expert. In a first-rate Guild, these experts would easily rank among the best, yet before Shi Feng, they seemed as if they were made of paper.

“Ye Feng!” Bloodhand Yama glared at Shi Feng with bloodshot eyes as he watched the man tear through his teammates. Immediately, he shook off Cola and charged at Shi Feng. Before he reached the Swordsman, he leaped into the air and swung his double-headed axe down at Shi Feng’s head.

Tier 1 Taboo Skill, Lightning Blast!

In the next moment, a lightning bolt descended from the sky and struck Bloodhand Yama’s one-handed axe, enhancing its power and speed tremendously.

Despite that, Shi Feng casually swung Killing Ray to deflect the attack.

Tier 2 Skill, Shadow Blade!

*Boom!*

When Killing Ray clashed with the double-headed axe, brilliant sparks flew from the weapons. The ground beneath Shi Feng’s feet cracked and sunk, extending ten yards away from the Swordsman.

“He blocked it?!”

“Is he even human?! That’s the commander’s strongest move!”

The Flower of Seven Sins members were stupefied. Not only did Lightning Blast increase its user’s Strength by 330% and Attack Speed by 300% for one attack, but it also dealt additional lightning damage. Not even an expert of the same level could block the attack, not to mention dodge it.

Yet Shi Feng had blocked Bloodhand Yama’s Lightning Blast, and he had only lost around one-fifth of his HP in doing so...

*How?!* Bloodhand Yama stared at Shi Feng with a dumbfounded look.

He had executed his attack with absolute perfection. Not even a Domain Realm expert should be able to block the attack in time, dying instantly, yet Shi Feng had kept up with his speed.

When Lightning Blast’s effects dissipated, something even more shocking happened.

Bloodhand Yama collapsed to the ground, his HP mysteriously decreasing at an astonishing rate...

What was happening?

Everyone was stupefied. Bloodhand Yama had attacked Shi Feng, but he had died instead of the Swordsman?

“What just happened?” The nearby crowd was confused.

“Big Sis Rain, did you see what Ye Feng did just now? Why did Bloodhand Yama die instead of him?” Blue Phoenix asked.

“Bloodhand Yama had focused on killing Ye Feng, but he failed to realize that Ye Feng aimed for his life as well. Although Ye Feng lost the exchange, Bloodhand Yama lost his life,” Phoenix Rain explained in a daze. Once she fully processed what had happened, she took a deep breath as she exclaimed, “He really is a madman!”

Phoenix Rain found it truly hard to imagine that, despite blocking a full-powered attack from an expert like Bloodhand Yama, Shi Feng had the gall to launch a simultaneous attack at the Shield Warrior’s blind spot.

Had Shi Feng made the slightest miscalculation, he might have fallen alongside Bloodhand Yama.

## Chapter 1497 – Heroic Stand

When Bloodhand Yama had died, silence had blanketed the battlefield. The Flower of Seven Sins’ members had nothing but fear in their eyes as they looked at Shi Feng.

Suddenly, the Flower of Seven Sins members scattered, fleeing from Shi Feng in all directions as none of them dared to stand in the Swordsman’s way.



“What amazing reaction speed!”

“Bloodhand Yama died, just like that?”

“Just what did Ye Feng do?”

Meanwhile, the various spectating superpowers were stunned. Their peak experts, in particular, watched Shi Feng with grim expressions.

Bloodhand Yama had been incredibly fast, yet not only had Shi Feng kept up with the man despite swinging his blade a moment after Bloodhand Yama began his attack, but he had also had the attention to spare while defending himself to use Shadow Blades against the Shield Warrior, catching him off guard.

It would've been fine if the counterattack had simply caught Bloodhand Yama off guard.

What truly shocked the various peak experts was that Shi Feng had killed Bloodhand Yama instantly, despite the Shield Warrior having activated Iron Fortress and having two-thirds of his HP remaining.

Iron Fortress reduced the damage that Bloodhand Yama took by 40% and increased his maximum HP by 20%. In addition, the Shield Warrior class had other Passive Skills that reduced incoming damage by a large margin. With Bloodhand Yama's remaining 30,000-plus HP, not even a Berserker of the same level should be able to kill him instantly, yet Shi Feng had done just that.

The watching experts wondered what would have happened if they had stood in Bloodhand Yama's place. Would they be able to survive? Or Shi Feng's blades claim their lives as well?

What everyone didn't know was that, although the counterattack seemed reckless, Shi Feng had calculated the whole encounter.

Tier 2 players had a much stronger physique than Tier 1 players. Furthermore, Shi Feng had multiple Fragmented Legendary items. There was also the fact that he had reduced Bloodhand Yama's Basic Attributes with Abyssal Curse. Moreover, Bloodhand Yama was a Strength-focused Shield Warrior. To Shi Feng, who had the Strength and speed of a Great Lord of the same level, defending against and killing Bloodhand Yama was no trouble.

Shi Feng didn't bother to chase after the fleeing Flower of Seven Sins' members. Instead, he picked up the plate-armor cuisses Bloodhand Yama had dropped. Although the cuisses weren't Epic rank, they were Level 45 Dark-Gold Equipment. The piece could easily fetch a few hundred Gold on the market.

After collecting up his loot, Shi Feng turned and dashed towards Martial Dragon.

Although no one stood in their path of retreat now, they'd still sustain heavy casualties if they allowed Martial Dragon and his people to pursue and attack.

As the battle drug on, Phoenix Rain's team had less than half of its original 200 or so members. In contrast, Nine Dragons Emperor's team still had over 200 players. The gap in both side's strength continued to grow. If they did not stop Martial Dragon, he'd cripple their team, even if they escaped in the end.

“Don’t even think of getting away so easily!” At this point, Nine Dragons Emperor knew that he couldn’t stop Phoenix Rain’s team from retreating. Immediately, he moved to work alongside Martial Dragon, slaughtering the fleeing players.

However, rather than dealing with the moderately skilled players, Martial Dragon and Nine Dragons Emperor targeted Gentle Snow and Zhao Yueru.

Suddenly, numerous arrows rained down on Gentle Snow, cutting off her path of retreat. At the same time, Martial Dragon leaped into the air, arriving beside the female Berserker. He then ruthlessly brandished his greatsword at the Snow Goddess.

Tier 1 Skill, Flaming Cross Slash!

As the raging flames approached Gentle Snow, several blue lightning bolts surged towards her from a short distance away, striking down Martial Dragon’s Flaming Cross Slash.

“Ye Feng?!” As his attack was nullified, Martial Dragon turned towards the lightning’s origin.

He had previously thought that he could easily take on Shi Feng, but he had learned that he’d have to keep his guard up against the Swordsman.

The man had already proven his strength when he had killed Undead and Bloodhand Yama. If he wasn’t careful, the Swordsman might take his life as well.

When Gentle Snow noticed that Martial Dragon had been distracted, she breathed a sigh of relief and promptly retreated.

“Everyone, stop fighting and flee!” Shi Feng shouted when he saw his allies fighting desperately. “I’ll bring up the rear!”

“How bold! Do you really think you can stop us all by yourself?!” A cold gleam flashed in Nine Dragons Emperor’s eyes as he glared at Shi Feng.

Although he acknowledged that Shi Feng was quite powerful, the man would be fooling himself if he thought he could stop more than 200 experts by himself.

Nine Dragons Emperor and his teammates stopped holding back as they bombarded Phoenix Rain’s team with their strongest attacks.

However, when the Spells and Skills were midway through their course, a powerful ripple radiated from the center of the battlefield.

Chilling Field!

When the ripple collided with the enemies’ Spells and Skills, they shattered instantly. In addition, Nine Dragons Emperor and his people, who stood within Chilling Field’s range, grew cold as their Attributes and Movement Speeds swiftly decreased.

Suddenly, icicles bombarded the melee players chasing after Phoenix Rain’s team.

Although these melee players tried to defend themselves, the icicles were far more powerful than they had imagined. Each icicle carried as much Strength as a Great Lord. Tier 1 players had no way of blocking the attacks.

Nine Dragons Emperor's people were forced out of Chilling Field's effective area.

Suddenly, Phoenix Rain's team stood on one side of a massive divide, while Nine Dragons Emperor's people stood on the other. Even an expert like Martial Dragon could only stand within Chilling Field's range for a short moment before he, too, was forced out.

*This is...a Domain Skill? How does he have one?* Nine Dragons Emperor's watched the frost-covered battlefield with a dark expression.

In God's Domain, large-scale destruction Spells were undoubtedly the strongest in pure power, but these Spells didn't differentiate between friend and foe. Normally, they were only effective in battles that consisted of tens of thousands of players.

Domain Skills followed closely behind large-scale destruction Spells. Domain Skills combined both offense and defense. Not only could they suppress one's enemies, but they were also effective against specific targets. However, players normally had to reach Tier 3 before they would find Domain Skills.

The watching players outside of Thunder Island were stupefied.

"Is this a joke?! He actually stopped Nine Dragons Emperor's team by himself!"

"Just who is this Ye Feng?"

...

For a time, everyone talked about Shi Feng.

First, he had killed Undead, who had the nickname the 'Devil's Hand.' Then he had killed Bloodhand Yama, one of the Flower of Seven Sins' representative experts. Now, he stopped 200-plus experts by himself. This was simply inconceivable.

None of the 200-plus players fighting for Nine Dragons Emperor were ordinary experts. This small force was more than capable of annihilating an army of several thousand elite players, yet they were helpless against Shi Feng. All they could do was watch as Phoenix Rain's team moved farther and farther out of their grasp.

Chapter 1498 – Capturing Ancient Towers

"Damn it!"

Nine Dragons Emperor's glare was frosty as he watched Phoenix Rain's team pull away from his own.

Arranging this ambush to eliminate Phoenix Rain had taken a lot of effort, yet Shi Feng had ruined his plans.

With Shi Feng maintaining Chilling Field in the narrow valley's center, his team couldn't pursue Phoenix Rain. Even if they launched ranged attacks, Shi Feng would have no trouble dodging them with his speed and techniques.

He didn't have the option of using a large-scale destruction Spell either. Shi Feng could easily pull away from the caster while the Spell activated.

In addition, Nine Dragons Emperor had already used Twelve Firmaments, his strongest trump card. He would not be able to use it again for the next ten hours.

After time passed, Shi Feng took a look at his system map. When he noticed that Phoenix Rain and the others were far enough away, he turned and sped away from the battlefield, no longer worried about distracting Nine Dragons Emperor and his people.

"Pavilion Master, should we give chase?" Martial Dragon asked after watching Shi Feng depart.

Although Phoenix Rain's team had escaped, Shadowtooth had placed a marker on Alluring Summer during their previous fight. Hence, it was entirely possible to chase after Phoenix Rain's team.

"No need. They've gotten lucky this time. You and Shadowtooth will go and occupy the ancient tower. Once we group up with Miracle's team, we'll have plenty of opportunities to deal with Phoenix Rain," Nine Dragons Emperor calmly stated as he shifted his gaze to the nearby ancient tower.

The main goal in this contest was to occupy Thunder Island's various monster encampments. However, there were a limited number of encampments on the island.

With so many superpowers participating in the contest, he'd be putting the cart before the horse if he chased after Phoenix Rain.

Moreover, not only had Phoenix Rain lost the chance to capture the ancient towers as a result of this battle, but her team had sustained heavy damages. After such a painful setback, Phoenix Rain would have a very difficult time turning things around.

Although this outcome wasn't what he had planned, he had achieved part of his goal.

"Understood!" Martial Dragon took one last look at Shi Feng's retreating figure before containing his killing intent. He then led a 20-man team towards the ancient tower on the side of a nearby hill.

Meanwhile, the various watching superpowers had gained a new understanding of Phoenix Rain's team. This was especially true for Zero Wing's Ye Feng.

Although it had only been a moment, Shi Feng had held back over 200 experts by himself.

Even the superpowers' Domain Realm experts would struggle to replicate the feat.

"Ye Feng is really unlucky. Had he joined a superpower instead of a small Guild like Zero Wing, his future would've been limitless."

"Send someone to investigate Ye Feng. I want to know his background."



“Nine Dragons Emperor is ruthless. Although Phoenix Rain still has her core combatants, over 70% of the island’s ancient towers have already been captured. She’ll have no choice but to wait until the next contest.”

After the battle between Phoenix Rain and Nine Dragons Emperor’s teams, the various superpowers returned their attention to capturing ancient towers and raiding monster encampments. While some teams pitied the Phoenix Pavilion Master, some celebrated her misfortune.

The first few minutes were the most important in the contest.

Thunder Island’s ancient towers were easily defensible. Once players captured an ancient tower, other players would have a challenging time trying to steal it. Without dispatching a force that was several times stronger than the defenders, the ancient towers were impossible to take.

Hence, the participating superpowers’ final achievements were usually decided during the first few minutes. Moreover, among the various superpowers, Phoenix Rain’s overall combat power ranked the weakest. After all, unlike the other superpowers, the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion had split its forces.

After Phoenix Rain and her companions escaped, they searched for an unoccupied ancient tower while waiting for their dead teammates to resurrect.

Finally, after ten minutes or so of searching, one of the scouting Assassins found an unclaimed tower at the edge of a bay.

Phoenix Rain immediately led her team to capture it.

The team spent around ten minutes clearing out the dozen or so Level 55, Lord ranked Savage Orcs before they captured the ancient tower.

“Big Sis Rain, I’ve just received news from our men outside of Thunder Island. All 39 ancient towers have been captured. I’m afraid we’ve lost our chance to secure a second tower,” Blue Phoenix reported helplessly.

“What’s the situation on Nine Dragons Emperor’s side?” Phoenix Rain asked, frowning.

She hadn’t expected the other superpowers to take action so quickly that she wouldn’t even have the opportunity to capture a second tower.

Thunder Island’s monster encampments were no trivial matter. Without tools or Berserk Skills, taking down ordinary Grand Lords of the same level would be extremely difficult, not to mention Thunder Islands’ Grand Lords.

The Defense and Magic Resistance a single tower provided wouldn’t likely be enough to help them capture a monster encampment, even if they worked together. They needed the weakening effects of two ancient towers.

“With the help of Miracle, Nine Dragons Emperor has captured three ancient towers. His team is already preparing to raid a monster encampment,” Blue Phoenix said. She then sent Phoenix Rain a statistics chart and continued, “These are the forces he has guarding the three towers. He’s allocated 102 players in total. Forty-two people are guarding the tower closest to us.”

“Nine Dragons Emperor isn’t taking any chances.” Phoenix Rain revealed a bitter smile as she read the information.

She had planned to attack one of Nine Dragons Emperor's ancient towers after she recovered her forces, but it seemed that was no longer possible.

They would have to run for nearly 15 minutes to reach the closest tower. Although only 42 people defended the tower, the party included Blood Dragon, the Branch Guild Leader of the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion's Black Dragon Empire Branch Guild. With the defender's advantage, her team wouldn't be able to take the tower unless it attacked with everything it had.

If they wanted to attack the second closest ancient tower, they'd need roughly 23 minutes to reach it. Moreover, they'd have to pass by Blood Dragon's tower during the run. They wouldn't be able to avoid Nine Dragons Emperor's detection. He'd easily be able to send reinforcements to the second tower before they reached it.

No matter what they did, they wouldn't be able to steal one of Nine Dragons Emperor's ancient towers. And taking a tower from another superpower was impossible. All of the other competitors already knew her team's predicament. Hence, they had intentionally dispatched more manpower to defend the towers close to her team, strengthening their fortifications beyond what Nine Dragons Emperor could manage...

To put it simply, her team had lost any chance of securing a monster encampment during this contest.

As he read the collected information, Shi Feng suddenly commented, "We're not completely out of options."

"We still have a chance?" Phoenix Rain took another look at the report in her hands, but even after reading through it again, she couldn't find an ancient tower that her team could raid.

“What about this tower?” Shi Feng said as he pointed to one of Nine Dragons Emperor’s ancient towers, the farthest from their current location.

“That one?” Phoenix Rain had initially been excited to hear that they still had a chance, but after seeing the ancient tower Shi Feng had pointed at, she was speechless. “Although only 25 players are defending that tower, it’ll take us 30 minutes to reach it. By the time we arrive, Nine Dragons Emperor’s reinforcements would’ve beaten us there. We’ll never be able to capture the tower.”

“No. We won’t just target one tower; we’ll capture two of his ancient towers simultaneously,” Shi Feng said, chuckling as he shook his head.

“Capture two towers?” Phoenix Rain looked at Shi Feng’s grin in confusion. For a moment, she wondered if the man had lost his mind after Nine Dragons Emperor’s provocation.

“Big Brother Ye Feng, you know the advantages players get after capturing a tower. Not only will allies near the towers receive a buff to their Basic Attributes, but they’ll also receive a damage reduction buff. With our current combat power, we’ll be fortunate to capture one tower. We just don’t have the power to capture two at once,” Blue Phoenix stated as she pointed at the magic barrier around each of the ancient towers.

“How will we know if we don’t try?” Shi Feng said, chuckling.

To accomplish the contest’s objectives, one had to have a lot of team members.

At this stage of the game, it was likely that no one understood Thunder Island’s contest better than he did. Furthermore, he had a strategic tool to capture the ancient towers.

He had wanted to avoid using it, but since Nine Dragons Emperor had ruined his plans, he didn't mind teaching the man the cost of doing so.

## Chapter 1499 – Siege Tactic

After listening to Shi Feng's proposal, Phoenix Rain fell silent for some time.

Trying to capture two ancient towers simultaneously was pushing the envelope with their current team. If they failed, their team's overall combat power would decrease once again, and capturing a tower later would become even more difficult. However, without three ancient towers, they had no guarantee of capturing a monster encampment.

For a moment, Phoenix Rain was wrought with indecision.

"If we don't make a move soon, it'll be even more difficult to capture an encampment," Shi Feng reminded her when he saw the hesitation in Phoenix Rain's eyes.

Like the ancient towers, there were a limited number of monster encampments on Thunder Island. There were only 17 encampments in this contest.

Now that the various superpowers had occupied the ancient towers, the encampments would be their next target. If they remained idle, doing nothing and allowing the other superpowers to capture and occupy the encampments, they'd lose any chance they currently had.

Once a team captured a monster encampment, NPCs would manifest to help the players defend it, making it many times more difficult to raid than an ancient tower.

“Alright. I’ll pass you the team’s leadership. I’ll do everything I can to assist you,” Phoenix Rain said, gritting her teeth. In the end, she decided to gamble on her fate. Moreover, she was curious about how Shi Feng planned to wrestle control of two ancient towers from Nine Dragons Emperor.

When Phoenix Rain agreed, Shi Feng began to prepare.

Any team that secured an ancient tower on Thunder Island would receive a stackable buff that decreased monsters’ Defense and Magic Resistance in the encampments when attacked. At the same time, allies within 100 yards of the captured tower would receive an extra buff that increased their Basic Attributes and reduced incoming damage by 30%. Hence, defending players were very difficult to deal with.

In addition, every team in the contest had allies outside the island to help them keep track of enemies’ movements. If an enemy team showed any intention of attacking a particular tower, the team would bolster its defense and dispatch reinforcements. This made it even more difficult to steal an occupied ancient tower.

Fortunately, these hurdles were nothing to Shi Feng.

“Phoenix Pavilion Master, you’ll lead 80 players to assault Nine Dragon Emperor’s nearest ancient tower. Try to avoid fighting within 100 yards of the tower. You just need to keep the defenders busy. I’ll lead a team of 100 to circle the tower and ambush the tower in the forest. The remaining 40 players will stay here and defend this area. If you’re alright with this plan, we’ll move out right away,” Shi Feng said.

His teammates were speechless when they heard Shi Feng’s plan.

They had assumed that he'd reveal some heaven-defying idea that would allow them to capture both towers at once.

But his plan seemed overly simple.

"Big Brother Ye Feng, I'm afraid that Nine Dragons Emperor will discover our members too quickly. He'll almost certainly dispatch reinforcements to the forest tower. Capturing the tower will likely..." Blue Phoenix said worriedly.

"Relax. Since Nine Dragons Emperor is busy capturing an encampment, he won't have many players to send if he sends any at all. Stealing the towers won't be an issue," Shi Feng said.

"But..." Everyone fell silent. The towers' terrain advantage was no laughing matter. They couldn't overcome the hurdle with a small numerical advantage.

"Alright, since no one else has any arguments, let's move out. Time waits for no man." Shi Feng then formed a 100-man team and made his way towards his target.

"Big Sis Rain, if we go along with this plan, I'm afraid that..." Blue Phoenix said anxiously as she watched Shi Feng depart.

"Let's see what he has in mind for now. If it isn't possible, we can always join up with his team and concentrate on a single location," Phoenix Rain said, sighing. She had handed Shi Feng authority over the team. She couldn't reject his plan without trying it.

"I understand," Blue Phoenix said after giving the matter some more thought. At this point, they had no choice.

Following which, Phoenix Rain led a team of 80 players towards the nearest ancient tower under Nine Dragons Emperor's control, hoping that her team could cause enough commotion to distract the man and luring as many players as possible. This way, Shi Feng's side would have a greater chance of succeeding.

...

After Phoenix Rain and Shi Feng's teams moved out, Nine Dragons Emperor, who was busy raiding a monster encampment, received news of their movements from his scouts outside of Thunder Island.

"Phoenix Rain is finally making a move?" Nine Dragons Emperor muttered when he received the report. After reading it, however, he was confused. "What is she trying to do? She dares to split her forces? Does she really think that I won't notice?"

Nine Dragons Emperor wasn't surprised in the least to learn that Phoenix Rain aimed to capture the ancient towers under his control. After all, among the nearby towers, his were the least fortified. He had done that on purpose.

He had 350 players on his team. With the buffs from the three ancient towers, he only needed 100 players to capture a monster encampment, leaving the remaining 250 to defend the towers. He had only left 102 players to defend them to give Phoenix Rain the illusion of hope. Once she took his bait, he'd send the remaining 148 players to form a pincer attack, eliminating Phoenix Rain from the contest.

However, he had never imagined that she'd split her forces, thinning her already low combat power.



“Pavilion Master, shall I lead a team to the towers?” Martial Dragon suggested.

“No. Let’s wait for now. Contact Miracle and tell them to get ready. Once Ye Feng’s team reached the other tower, you’ll meet up with Miracle’s forces to surround them. I refuse to believe they can get away this time!” Nine Dragons Emperor growled, sneering.

“Understood.” Martial Dragon nodded. He then contacted Miracle’s upper echelons.

...

Time passed quickly. While Phoenix Rain’s team tried to attract Nine Dragons Emperor’s forces to the first tower, Shi Feng’s team inched closer to the tower hidden in the forest.

“Ye Feng, Nine Dragons Emperor has dispatched a force to your tower! Some of Miracle’s members are heading your way as well! Overall, 300 players are marching towards the forest tower! They should reach the tower in roughly five minutes! You need to get out of there!” Phoenix Rain warned the Swordsman, her anxiety written all over her face.

Even if they fought in the forest, Nine Dragons Emperor and Miracle’s over 300p players could easily annihilate Shi Feng’s 100-man team.

“Nine Dragons Emperor’s done sitting still, huh?” Shi Feng responded, revealing a calm smile.

“Guild Leader, you’re still in the mood to smile? We’re talking about 300-plus experts. If it comes down to a fight, we’ll suffer heavy losses even with a few Tier 2 players,” Aqua Rose said, flabbergasted when she saw Shi Feng’s calm.

“Since Nine Dragons Emperor is finally taking us seriously, we should do the same,” Shi Feng said, chuckling. He then activated the Aura of Space’s second Activatable Skill, Spatial Gate. His destination was none other than the farthest ancient tower under Nine Dragons Emperor’s control. It was also the tower with only 25 players defending it. “Everyone, get in the gate. It’s time we teach Nine Dragons Emperor the price of targeting us.”

While tools were prohibited during the contest, weapons and equipment’s Teleportation Skills were not. Hence, he could freely teleport around Thunder Island. In fact, he could even teleport off of the island. Unfortunately, he’d need a new Thunder Pass to reenter if he did so.

Seeing the Spatial Gate, realization struck Aqua Rose and the others.

Since tools were prohibited, players had to rely on their own capabilities to travel around Thunder Island. A Skill like Teleportation Gate was godly in this contest.

Upon Shi Feng’s command, the 100-man team entered the Teleportation Gate. In the next moment, they appeared before an ancient tower on the edge of a cliff.

When the Heavenly Dragon Pavilion members defending the tower saw Shi Feng’s team, they were stupefied.

“Crap! We’re being ambushed! Quickly notify the Pavilion Master!” a Level 47 Ranger, who reacted very quickly, shouted.

However, as the Ranger finished speaking, towering pillars of fire rose up from the ground, enveloping a large fraction of the defending players. The instant the flames touched the players, their bodies fell to ash.

This move was none other than Shi Feng's Flame Domain.

When the Flame Domain dissipated, less than 10 of the 25 players remained standing...

## Chapter 1500 – Unstoppable Ye Feng

In one of the monster encampments on Thunder Island...

The team Nine Dragons Emperor led cleared out the Savage Orcs in the encampment's outer region.

There were far more Orcs in the monster encampments than in the ancient towers. The encampment Nine Dragons Emperor raided easily had over 2,000 Savage Orcs, and they all wore armor and carried both a spear and bow. Walls of stone and wood protected the encampment, and dozens of watchtowers with ballistas were stationed at regular intervals along the walls.

Moreover, all of the Orcs were Level 55 and above, and the weakest among them was Chieftain rank. A Level 60 Specialized Grand Lord even stood in the center of the encampment. The quantity and quality of the monsters even forced Nine Dragons Emperor's expert team to move carefully lest they attract too many monsters at a time.

While Nine Dragons Emperor commanded his team to attack a watchtower, a shout suddenly came through the team chat.

“Pavilion Master, we’re in trouble! Someone’s ambushed our tower! We need reinforcements!”

“An ambush?! Who is it?! How many people do they have?!” Nine Dragons Emperor’s expression darkened. Angrily, he shouted, “Didn’t any of the scouts warn of the attack?!”

To guarantee the safety of his towers, he had tasked over a dozen people outside of Thunder Island to scout for movement around the towers.

Yet, despite his scouts, his least defended tower had been ambushed. He wanted nothing more than to crack open his scout’s heads to see what occupied their empty skulls.

“Pavilion Master, the team appeared suddenly. Ye Feng is the team’s leader. We’re outnumbered. We can’t hold on for much longer.”

“Ye Feng?! How?! Wasn’t his team heading for the forest tower?!”

Nine Dragons Emperor’s expression was dubious when he heard the news. However, he saw the truth of it when he watched the live-stream that his subordinate had sent.

Before Nine Dragons Emperor could say more, Shi Feng appeared before the reporting Ranger, the Swordsman’s two blades easily slitting the Ranger’s neck. Although the Ranger had unsheathed a short sword to defend himself, Shi Feng was simply too fast. The Ranger had been struck numerous times before he could even raise his short sword. Following which, the live-stream disconnected and the screen faded to black.

It was obvious that Shi Feng had killed the reporting Ranger...

“How did Ye Feng get all the way over there?” Questions plagued Nine Dragons Emperor’s mind as he stared at the dark screen.

He had recently sent Martial Dragon to surround Shi Feng at the forest tower, yet the Swordsman had appeared at the cliff tower, over ten minutes away, a few minutes later. This sudden development was inconceivable.

However, the Heavenly Dragon Pavilion Master quickly snapped out of his daze, realizing the severity of the matter. Hurriedly, he contacted Martial Dragon and commanded, “Martial, head to the cliff tower immediately!”

“Why? Weren’t we supposed to surround Ye Feng’s team?” Martial Dragon asked.

“Don’t ask! Just hurry over there! Ye Feng is leading an assault on that tower! The defenders there won’t hold on much longer!” Urgency and anxiety tore at Nine Dragons Emperor.

He had only stationed 25 players at the cliff tower. Shi Feng could easily capture it with 50 to 60 players.

“Understood.” When Martial Dragon saw Nine Dragons Emperor’s panic, he realized the severity of the matter. He immediately commanded his team to change course for the cliff tower.

However, a few seconds after Martial Dragon gave the command, everyone on Nine Dragons Emperor's team lost one stack of their tower buffs, leaving them with only two.

Nine Dragons Emperor's expression twisted in rage. The thread of hope he had clung onto had been destroyed.

What Nine Dragons Emperor did not know was that, among the 25 players defending the ancient tower, Shi Feng's Flame Domain had killed over 15 instantly.

Meanwhile, Shi Feng led a 100-man team. Even if the defenders had the 30% buff to their Basic Attributes and damage reduction, they were outnumbered. Furthermore, Shi Feng had multiple Tier 2 players on his side. Even with the buff, the tower defenders' Basic Attributes were nothing compared to Shi Feng and his companions'.

"Ye Feng!" Nine Dragons Emperor bellowed as the live-stream replayed in his mind.

He knew every trump card Phoenix Rain possessed, and none of those trump cards allowed players to cross such a large distance in such a short amount of time. The sudden arrival of Shi Feng's team had to be the Swordsman's doing.

Without the team's three tower buffs, it would become extremely difficult to capture a monster encampment. It might even be impossible. Aside from the Specialized Grand Lord in the heart of the encampment, they also had to deal with four ordinary Grand Lords beside it. Without the three stacks of Defense and Magic Resistance weakening, his team couldn't deal enough damage to the Bosses with their Attributes.

"Everyone, listen up! Aside from the players defending the ancient towers, all of you will follow me to the cliff tower!" Nine Dragons Emperor announced after taking in a deep breath. "Martial, notify Miracle's members and have them gather there as well! I refuse to believe that Ye Feng can face us all!"

Although he had lost the ancient tower, he still had the numerical advantage. Even if Shi Feng had over 100 players, he could still recapture the tower.

...

Elsewhere, when Phoenix Rain, who currently distracted Nine Dragons Emperor's subordinates, saw her tower buff increase by a stack, she was stunned.

*What?! He actually succeeded?! Phoenix Rain could not believe her eyes when she saw her status window, but when she read the latest update on Nine Dragons Emperor's movements, her joy fell away. Hurriedly, she warned her companion through the team chat, "Ye Feng, Nine Dragons Emperor is furious. He's gathering all available manpower to your location. Miracle's members are heading your way as well. We estimate that around 400 players are moving towards you. You can't defend the tower. You need to retreat."*

Although Shi Feng's achievement delighted her, the difference between the two sides' strength was massive. She had to admit that little tricks like this were meaningless in the face of absolute power.

"It's fine. Let them come," Shi Feng said, smiling faintly when he read the report. "Right, your side should get ready."

This situation might be troublesome if he weren't on Thunder Island, but players couldn't achieve victory here with a larger army.

"Get ready for what? Is there some way we can help?" Phoenix Rain asked.

“No. Prepare to capture your tower,” Shi Feng stated indifferently.

“This...” Phoenix Rain was speechless.

The tower before her was defended by 42 players. Moreover, Blood Dragon led the defense. Although she had 80 players, they could never capture the tower before Nine Dragons Emperor’s reinforcements arrived.

“Relax. I’ll help you with it,” Shi Feng said.

“Help us?” Phoenix Rain was stunned. For a moment, she even thought she had heard wrong. Shi Feng had enough issues on his side. How could he help her?

Although she found Shi Feng’s words hard to believe, a part of her couldn’t just dismiss them. Of the man’s multiple insane declarations thus far, he had never once failed to carry them out.

“When I tell you to attack, strike with everything you’ve got. Leave the rest to me,” Shi Feng instructed. “My side still needs to prepare. Try to lure as many people out of the tower as possible in the meantime.”

Phoenix Rain had no response. There simply wasn’t anything she could say about his simple approach, yet the way Shi Feng had spoken about the plan made it seem as if the decision had been obvious. After a moment of silence, she sighed and said, “I understand. I’ll have my men lure them out.”



The minutes flew by. While Nine Dragons Emperor and Miracle's combined team of 400-plus players rushed towards Shi Feng's ancient tower, he took his sweet time resting.

Once Flame Domain's Cooldown finished, he told Phoenix Rain, "Attack!"

Not giving the matter much thought, Phoenix Rain led her 80-man team in a charge against Blood Dragon's tower.

"Phoenix Rain, you are courting death!" When Blood Dragon saw Phoenix Rain's team dash towards him, he prepared his team for battle. At the same time, he opened a communication window to contact Nine Dragons Emperor.

Just as Blood Dragon was about to report this new development, a figure appeared in the sky. The figure was none other than Shi Feng, who had appeared using the Aura of Space's first Activatable Skill, Space Movement.

Before anyone could react, Shi Feng used Flame Domain once again.

The towering pillars of fire burned over half of the defending team to death. Only a dozen or so players, who had reacted quickly, escaped the AOE in time.

After using Flame Domain, Shi Feng appeared before Blood Dragon.

Phantom Kill!

Flame Burst!

Using Flame Burst alongside his doppelganger, even the skillful Blood Dragon was powerless against Shi Feng. Although Blood Dragon had instinctively activated his Lifesaving Skill, each attack from Flame Burst dealt tens of thousands of damage.

In the blink of an eye, Blood Dragon's corpse sprawled at Shi Feng's feet. The enemy players were stupefied. Their chain of command descended into chaos. Very quickly, Phoenix Rain's members annihilated their enemies.

...

When Nine Dragons Emperor and his people were roughly ten minutes from the cliff tower, they noticed that they had lost another tower buff stack.

"What is going on? What happened?" Confusion colored Nine Dragons Emperor's expression as he looked at his status window.

"Pavilion Master, Ye Feng appeared and attacked Branch Guild Leader Blood Dragon's tower a moment ago..." one of the scouts outside of Thunder Island cautiously informed him.