

Strongest

Chapter 1611 – Counterattack

“Magic?” When Shi Feng saw Aqua Rose’s excitement, he smiled and said, “I don’t know any magic. I merely gave each of them a piece of equipment.”

“A piece of equipment?” Aqua Rose could not help her confusion. “How has a piece of equipment made such a huge difference?”

Weapons and equipment only improved a player’s Basic Attributes. While the Dark Gods Parties’ Basic Attributes had risen since she had seen them last, the improvement to their combat standards was the key difference. They never would’ve been able to defeat a 100-man expert team with just a boost to their Basic Attributes

“Here; you’ll understand once you take a look.” Shi Feng then shared the Conqueror’s Armor’s Attributes with Aqua Rose.

As Aqua Rose was one of Zero Wing’s core upper echelons, he had no reason to hide the armor from her.

Besides, as players reached higher levels, it’d only be a matter of time before the various large Guilds learned about battle arrays.

He had only had the Dark Gods members sign a confidentiality contract to hide the information from the various large Guilds for as long as he could, but it was impossible to hide the battle arrays from the public forever.

“This...”

When Aqua Rose read the armor’s information, she was dazed.

She had never thought that God’s Domain had equipment like this.

Not only did the Conqueror’s Armor improved its wearer’s Basic Attributes, but it also allowed them to share their perception with other players wearing the armor. It could basically enhance players’ perception range by a large margin, allowing these players to reach a simplified version of the Void Realm. Although ordinary experts wearing the Conqueror’s Armor still wouldn’t be able to control their bodies as well as Refinement Realm experts, their overall combat standards wouldn’t be any weaker than an actual Refinement Realm expert with the enhanced perception.

“Guild Leader, where did you obtain so many pieces of this armor?” Aqua Rose inquired.

How could ordinary equipment possibly compare to such powerful battle array equipment? The Conqueror’s Armor offered even greater benefits than ordinary Epic Equipment. It had to be incredibly rare, yet Shi Feng had given these chest pieces to 100 Dark Gods Legion members...

“I made them,” Shi Feng answered truthfully.

Seeing Shi Feng’s calm expression, Aqua Rose was at a loss.

If Shi Feng had said that he had been grinding and collected the armor during his long disappearance, she might be able to believe him, yet Shi Feng claimed to have made all of the chest pieces. Her mind simply could not process the statement.

With five pieces of Conqueror's Armor, one could nurture five Refinement Realm experts.

If they produced 1,000 pieces of the Conqueror's Armor, they would have a 1,000-man army of Refinement Realm experts...

Not even Super Guilds had such an army.

"Don't overthink it. I had to deplete the Guild's stock of rare materials just to craft the 100 pieces. It won't be possible to mass-produce the armor in a short amount of time," Shi Feng said, shaking his head. Naturally, he knew what Aqua Rose must have thought.

The Conqueror's Armor's material cost was only secondary. The crucial issue was acquiring the materials. Although the materials weren't super-rare, the various large Guilds frequent purchased them. Even if Zero Wing spent a fortune to obtain these items, it could only acquire a limited amount. It definitely wasn't possible to gear an invincible legion with the Conqueror's Armor.

"What a pity. If we had a few hundred more, we could flatten Heaven's Burial," Aqua Rose said, clicking her tongue. She had no idea how greedy she sounded.

"Several hundred?" Shi Feng's smile turned bitter. "I'll give you a list of the necessary materials, so try to purchase as many as you can in secret. Once we have the materials, I'll try to forge as many as I can."

"I understand." Aqua Rose nodded eagerly, her eyes glowing with excitement. "But Guild Leader, what should we do next? Although Heaven's Burial has retreated, the bounty is still in place. We really can't afford to let this situation continue."

Although Heaven's Burial's forces had retreated, the high bounty it had offered still tempted many unrelated players to attack Zero Wing's members. Even though Zero Wing now had the Dark Gods Parties, there was a limit to how much area 20 parties could cover. They couldn't limit the Dark Gods Parties to patrols, either, as it would severely impact their leveling speed.

"Heaven's Burial sure gave up quickly." Shi Feng was slightly disappointed when he read the statistics report Aqua Rose had sent.

He had assumed that Heaven's Burial and Blackwater would continue to clash with Zero Wing, relying on their numeric advantage. He hadn't expected Heaven's Burial to retreat so decisively. He had only managed to wear the enemy Guild down slightly.

However, Shi Feng could understand their decision after giving the matter some thought.

If one had sufficient understanding of Refinement Realm experts, they'd realize what kind of prowess 100 Refinement Realm experts could wield in guerilla warfare. Moreover, these 100 experts were concentrated in a few maps. This was also why the various large Guilds were so afraid of Super Guilds and super-first-rate Guilds.

Ordinary players, elite players, and ordinary expert players...

With enough money, a Guild could recruit and nurture as many of these players as they wanted, but it was a slightly different story when it came to Refinement Realm experts and those who were stronger. Guilds couldn't necessarily recruit such experts just because it had the money to throw at them.

Moreover, there was a qualitative difference between the power of a Refinement Realm expert and the power of an ordinary expert.

Even in equipment with similar Attributes, there would be a massive difference between the combat power Refinement Realm experts could display and that of ordinary experts.

Without an overwhelming Basic Attribute advantage, several, maybe more than a dozen, ordinary experts would need to work together to take down a Refinement Realm expert. This granted Refinement Realm experts a massive advantage in field battles. Normally, Guilds could only cope with these experts' ambushes by dispatching their own Refinement Realm experts or organizing their players into large groups. However, it wasn't feasible to send its members out in teams of hundreds or thousands as it would negatively impact their acquisition of EXP and equipment.

Not even well-funded Guilds would survive long if 100 experts interfered with thousands of its members' development.

This was precisely why super-first-rate and Super Guilds had maintained a solid footing in the virtual gaming world for so many years, finding it beneath them to bully first-rate and below Guilds. Their strength was simply on a different level.

Of course, Refinement Realm experts weren't enough to help a Guild become an overlord in the virtual gaming world. Guilds also needed a large number of members to help with other tasks, such as occupying territory and harvesting resources.

"Since Heaven's Burial has retreated, we'll take the fight to them. It's about time we show Heaven's Burial that it's not the only power that can hunt players," Shi Feng decided after giving the matter some thought. "Notify Fire Dance and the others. Have them lead the Dark Gods Parties to the Orc Empire and teach Heaven's Burials' members what it feels like to be prey. I want to see which of our Guilds lasts until the very end!"

Due to its lack of experts, Zero Wing had only been able to defend against Heaven's Burial's brutal assaults, but now that it had the Dark Gods Parties, it had no reason to hold back against its enemy.

In his previous life, many Super Guilds and super-first-rate Guilds had often used this tactic, hindering a large group's development by sending small parties of Refinement Realm experts, when they wanted to avoid wasting resources to deal with troublesome Guilds. He didn't mind testing this tactic on Heaven's Burial.

"Alright, I'll let them know." Aqua Rose's excitement built when she heard Shi Feng's order.

They had taken a one-sided beating from Heaven's Burial and Blackwater for too long now. They hadn't been able to counterattack, which made them all feel powerless. They simply hadn't had enough experts to put up a fight. If they had sent ordinary experts into Heaven's Burial's territory, they'd send their people to the slaughter, rather than damage their enemy.

Now that they had an additional 100 Refinement Realm experts, their ability to retaliate had increased several-fold, even if they couldn't deal any lasting damage to Heaven's Burial.

Chapter 1612 – Insane Guild

After Shi Feng had given Aqua Rose his commands, he disconnected the call and contacted Melancholic Smile.

He had Melancholic Smile post an announcement on the official forums for Zero Wing, stating that the Guild had doubled the bounty on Heaven's Burial's members once more.

The bounty for killing a normal member had already risen to 40 Silver, but they had just raised it to 80 Silver. The bounty on elite members had also risen from 2 Gold to 4 Gold per kill, while the bounty on Heaven's Burial's expert players had risen from 20 Gold to 40 Gold.

Moreover, Shi Feng had Melancholic Smile use a provocative title for the forum post:

Heaven's Burial, do you dare to face us?

Now, players could instantly earn enough money to purchase a Common Mount from NPCs just by killing one of Heaven's Burial's experts. Even if they already had their own Mount, they could afford an ordinary piece of Level 45 Fine-Gold Equipment.

Even expert players found the remuneration incredibly tempting. Even the expert players that broke their back to earn money couldn't earn 20 Gold in a single day. Moreover, as long as they killed one of Heaven's Burial's experts, even their death would be a worthwhile exchange.

"Guild Leader, have you lost your mind?" Melancholic Smile's eyes nearly fell from their sockets when Shi Feng told her to double their bounties on Heaven's Burial. "Where is our Guild supposed to find that much money?"

If they posted this new bounty, it would definitely inspire a lot of expert players to kill Heaven's Burial's members, and the number of bounties Zero Wing would have to pay out would be no laughing matter. With Zero Wing's current income, it simply couldn't support such a high bounty. Doubling the bounty was a self-destructive move, and Zero Wing would become a laughingstock.

"Relax. I'll figure out a source. If we really can't afford to pay, sell a portion of the weapons and equipment the Dark Gods Party obtained," Shi Feng said.

The current bounty was quite a burden on Zero Wing, but it was only a small annoyance to Heaven's Burial. At this rate, Zero Wing's situation would only become more disadvantageous.

Unfortunately, since there were too few of them, the Dark Gods Parties weren't enough to deal a severe blow to Heaven's Burial, regardless of how many members they hunted down.

Fortunately, the Dark Gods Parties had reaped quite a harvest for the Guild during its hunt. They had collected over 400 pieces of Level 45 Dark-Gold Equipment, over 700 pieces of Level 45 Fine-Gold Equipment, and over 2,000 pieces of Level 45 Secret-Silver Equipment. All of the equipment should be enough to help Zero Wing hold on for quite some time.

Moreover, he had already dispatched the Dark Gods Parties to the Orc Empire. If a large number of players joined the hunt for Heaven's Burial members, it would ease the burden on the Dark Gods Parties. In turn, the Dark Gods Parties could obtain more weapons and equipment.

Aside from these factors, if they secured the Mana Ore vein, Zero Wing would have another massive revenue source.

All of the various large Guilds urgently needed Mana Ore, and as a result, the market price had risen to a staggering 1 Gold, 20 Silver. Originally, the ore had only been worth around 40 Silver. Meanwhile, the Boneless Land was rich in Mana Ore. It would not be difficult to acquire a large amount of Mana Ore.

"I understand." Melancholic Smile could only nod helplessly in response to Shi Feng's command. Although she was confident in Shi Feng's abilities, she still could not help but feel that his decision was a little too crazy this time.

Following which, Melancholic Smile published the new bounties on Star-Moon Kingdom's official forums.

Star-Moon Kingdom's players went mad over the news.

"All hail Zero Wing!"

"How rich! Is this Zero Wing's true power?"

"Crap! Is Zero Wing for real? Forty Gold Coins just for killing one of Heaven's Burial's experts?! With this much money, Heaven's Burial's experts might kill themselves to claim their own bounties from Zero Wing."

"This is insane! Zero Wing has truly gone insane! Even top-tier experts would be tempted by this price."

"This won't do! I need to form a team to grind Heaven's Burial's members! Who wants to team up?!"

"Amazing. Zero Wing is really bold to pull such a stunt. Heaven's Burial is in for some pain."

"Heaven's Burial must've gone too far when it provoked Zero Wing this time. Even if the Guild destroys Zero Wing, they're going to suffer for it."

When everyone saw that Zero Wing had doubled its bounties, they couldn't help but feel some sympathy for Heaven's Burial's members. At the same time, they were shocked by Zero Wing's generosity.

...

Orc Empire, Ancient Rock City:

As the only Guild City in the Orc Empire's inner region, a constant stream of players visited the city each day. Not even kingdoms' major NPC cities could compete with Ancient Rock City's player population.

Although the city was extremely lively, silence dominated the meeting room in Heaven's Burial's Residence. Despite the Guild's upper echelons filling the room, no one made a sound as they stared at Singular Burial with somber expressions.

Due to the previous hunting war, Heaven's Burial had lost a significant amount of equipment, and a large number of their experts had been killed.

However, that wasn't enough to warrant a meeting of this scale.

They had gathered in this meeting room due to Zero Wing's latest announcement.

Because of that announcement, Heaven's Burial had suffered more casualties than ever before...

"Lunatics! Everyone from Zero Wing is a lunatic!" Singular Burial's brows twitched uncontrollably when he read Heaven's Burial's latest casualty report.

Less than half an hour since Zero Wing had doubled its bounties, Heaven's Burial had suffered over 4,000 casualties, far more than it had during the hunting war...

Thus far, the Guild's loss was already worth roughly 8,000 Gold. Of course, Zero Wing hadn't gotten off easy, either, since it had to pay at least 10,000 Gold in bounties.

If this continued, Heaven's Burial wouldn't last long even with Blackwater's investments and Ancient Rock City's income.

"Guild Leader, based on our reports, part of the reason that our casualty count is so high is that Zero Wing's Dark Gods Parties have begun to operate in the Orc Empire. Although we've sent our forces to hunt them down, they are moving too quickly. We haven't been able to catch them. Rather, the tables have turned on quite a few of the teams we sent out to hunt down these Dark Gods Parties," Daybreak Fog reported. "The Guild's morale is incredibly low, and some elite members have begun to withdraw from the Guild..."

"Zero Wing! Black Flame!" Singular Burial gnashed his teeth as he glared at the report in his hands. "Since that is how you want to play it, I want to see which of us can last until the end!"

He truly hadn't thought that this war would develop to this point.

Zero Wing's actions had also forced Heaven's Burial to raise its bounties correspondingly. The increased bounties added yet another significant expenditure for the Guild. Now, they were forced to spend the funds they had saved for Ancient Rock City's development...

However, Singular Burial was still confident that his Guild's foundations were sturdier than Zero Wing's. He refused to believe that Heaven's Burial couldn't outcompete Zero Wing with the full support of Blackwater and the income from Ancient Rock City.

...

Elsewhere, Shi Feng had finally reached the Boneless Land with Zero Wing's internal members and White Tiger Dojo's disciples.

As the group arrived, they found themselves in a dusky, foggy area. They also felt an oppressive weight bear down on them, making their thoughts sluggish. Moreover, they felt an indescribably dangerous feeling from their surroundings, as if they'd die if they took a wrong step.

Hidden among the fog, these players faintly saw the towering walls of a town some distance away.

What's going on? Why is there a town here? Shi Feng was confused when he noticed the distant town.

He was very familiar with the Boneless Land, clearly remembering that it was home to Demonic Creatures. No NPC town should be able to survive here; the map should be a barren wasteland. Other creatures shouldn't be able to survive in the Boneless land, not to mention human buildings.

Chapter 1613 – Mystery of the Boneless Land

Naturally, Shi Feng was curious about the mysterious town, and he immediately led his team towards it.

This NPC town hadn't existed during his previous life. In fact, he had never even heard of an NPC town in the Boneless Land. The various Guilds would never have spent so much effort to construct Guild Towns here in the past had this map had an NPC town. After all, the Boneless Land was not a high-resource map. It's only benefit was its high drop-rate of Mana Ore.

God's Domain had quite a few high-resource maps that spawned large quantities of Mana Ore; the Boneless Land wasn't unique in this aspect. Furthermore, due to the Boneless Land's special environment, very few players had been willing to come here.

Among the Guilds that had set their sights on the Boneless Land, none had been a superpower. The strongest Guild had only been a first-rate Guild.

These Guilds had only bothered to build a Guild Town to ensure that their members had somewhere to rest and recover their spent Stamina and Concentration.

A mysterious Fog shrouded the Boneless Land all year round, and any player that entered the map would have to endure several times the normal Stamina and Concentration consumption rates. The consumption rates were so high that players' Stamina and Concentration would decrease even if they stood there and did nothing. Players simply couldn't survive in the Boneless Land for long periods.

And players could only recover their Stamina and Concentration by resting in a hotel or Guild Hall.

Moreover, unlike in other locations where players would be immobilized if they ran out of Stamina or Concentration, players would die if they ran out in the Boneless Land!

Because of this, Shi Feng had only intended to visit the Boneless Land after he acquired the Guild Magic Car.

The Guild Magic Car was like a mobile hotel. With it, players could stay and mine Mana Ore in the Boneless Land as long as they needed to.

If not for Zero Wing's urgent need for Mana Ore and its increasing prices, Shi Feng wouldn't have bothered to visit this area.

As Shi Feng's group inched closer to the fog-shrouded town, the pressure they felt increased. Their movements became stiff and sluggish, and they could feel a horrific power radiating from the town, their instincts screaming at them to avoid it.

What an amazing town! Shi Feng was astonished when he finally got a clear view of the town.

He was a Level 63, Tier 2 player, and very few things in the Boneless Land could threaten his life.

The Boneless Land was, after all, a Level 60 to Level 80 map. It might be a dangerous map for other players at this stage of the game, but its difficulty was perfect for him.

Moreover, the Boneless Land was a barren wasteland, without forests or canyons. Despite the dense fog, visibility in the map was considerably good. One could easily spot roaming monsters from a long distance away.

"Guild Leader, there are a lot of monsters moving outside the town ahead. It looks like there are several thousands of them," a Level 32 Ranger, who used Eagle Eyes to scout the town's surroundings, reported.

The other team members couldn't help but tense when they heard the Ranger.

Although they had the combat standards of an expert, they were all still below Level 40, yet the monsters here were all Level 60 and above. With such a huge level difference, a handful of monsters would be more than enough to annihilate their team of several hundred. If not for Shi Feng's presence, they would've likely turned tail and run by now.

Why wouldn't they be worried after learning that thousands of Level 60-plus monsters awaited them ahead?

Although their levels were low, they'd still need a considerable amount of time to recover the lost EXP if they died.

Several thousand monsters? Shi Feng was slightly surprised. *Why are there so many?*

Monsters in the Boneless Land generally moved in groups of dozens; very rarely would more than 100 gather in a single location. Meanwhile, any group of over 100 Demonic Creatures would certainly be led by a Great Lord. Even Tier 2 expert players would try to avoid such a high-ranked monster.

As a Demonic Creature dwelling, all sorts of Demonic Creatures lived in the Boneless land. Unlike ordinary field monsters, Demonic Creatures had much higher combat standards. Even the weakest among them would be able to reach the late stage of the Trial Tower's second floor. Ordinary players could only reach the Trial Tower's second and third floor with their combat standards. Meanwhile, Demonic Creatures also had much higher Basic Attributes than players of the same level.

In other words, a Tier 2 ordinary player would be no match for a Tier 2 Lord ranked Demonic Creature of the same level.

Only Tier 2 expert players had any hope, yet even these experts would flee from a Tier 3 Great Lord ranked Demonic Creature. Tier 2 experts would have to form a party to take one down.

And now, thousands of Demonic Creatures had gathered around the town ahead of them...

“Guild Leader, are we still going to the town?” You Ziping, who had already reached Level 37, asked worriedly.

When You Ziping saw the screenshot the Ranger had shared, littered with HP bars, even he, who had reached the Trial Tower’s sixth floor, could not help but break out in a cold sweat. He couldn’t fathom why Shi Feng had brought them here.

If these Demonic Creatures accidentally discovered them, Shi Feng might be able to get away, but the rest of them would be slaughtered...

“Let’s head over and take a look,” Shi Feng said after giving the matter some more thought.

He had found an NPC town he had never heard of in the Boneless Land. It’d be a waste not to investigate. If they could use the town as a resting point, it would save him a lot of trouble.

Following which, Shi Feng’s team members had no choice but to grit their teeth as they followed him to the town.

When the team reached a small slope not far from the town and caught sight of the large number of Demonic Creatures around it, they were dumbfounded.

Although they had experienced their fair share of life-or-death battles, their hearts began to pound with fear when they saw the Demonic Creatures ahead of them. This was especially true when they saw the gigantic, demonic snake, which was over a thousand meters long, guarding the town's main entrance.

The snake's head alone was the size of a five-story-tall building. With a single breath, this serpent could create a powerful hurricane. Even from so far away, these players could feel the snake's breath bush their skin.

"How does God's Domain have such a creature?!"

"Is that really a monster?"

As these players stared at the massive snake, fear and despair welled within them. They felt powerless, paralyzed by their fear.

As they watched the demonic snake, they felt how insignificant humans truly were for the first time in their lives.

Even running from the demonic snake would require a certain amount of courage, much less fighting it...

...

[Two-headed Bird Monster] (Demonic Creature, Chieftain)

Level 62

HP 7,000,000/7,000,000

[Demonic Flame Hound] (Demonic Creature, Lord)

Level 64

HP 15,500,000/15,500,000

[Three-headed Hellhound] (Demonic Creature, Great Lord)

Level 65

HP 34,000,000/34,000,000

[Purgatory Serpent] (Archaic Species, Demonic Creature, Grand Lord)

Level 70

HP 160,000,000/160,000,000

...

However, unlike his teammates, who were shocked by the Purgatory Serpent and its Demonic Creature companions, Shi Feng was surprised by the town beyond the Grand Lord.

The town wasn't an NPC town at all; it was mining site, operated by Demons...

A large number of Demons patrolled the town's walls, and inside the town, even more Demonkin descended into and emerged from a massive hole in the town's center. This massive hole seemed like a bottomless abyss, and Shi Feng could feel a heart-wrenching aura radiating from it. Meanwhile, among the various ores the Demonkin lifted out of the hole, Shi Feng spotted the precious Mana Ore.

Chapter 1614 – Leveling Holy Land

A Demon operated mineral field?

Shi Feng was flabbergasted as he stared at the massive hole in the center of the town. He had never realized that the Boneless Land had a mineral field and such a large one at that.

Based on the size of the mineral field, Shi Feng estimated that it was a Medium Mineral Field.

He had never heard of anything like this in the past. If people had known that the Boneless Land had a Medium Mineral Field, even Super Guilds would fight over it, not to mention first-rate Guilds.

In God's Domain, mineral fields were categorized by size.

First, there were Small Mineral Fields, like the one in Heaven's Burial's Red Iron Town[1]. Small Mineral Fields had very small ore veins, and generally, 100 players and a full day were all one would need to mine a Small Mineral Field dry for a single cycle. Even so, Small Mineral Fields were extremely valuable. At the very least, a Guild wouldn't lack the types of ore the mineral field spawned.

The veins in Medium Mineral Fields were slightly larger, requiring 300 players and a full day to mine the veins dry for a cycle.

As for Large Mineral Fields, a Guild would need to put 1,000 players to work for a full day to drain the veins. Large Mineral Fields were goldmines, and any Guild that owned one could make a fortune from it.

While Small Mineral Fields in God's Domain were common, Medium Fields were extremely rare, and Large Mineral Fields were as unique as a phoenix's feather. In the past, the various superpowers had fought over every Medium and Large Mineral Field they had found, even those that spawned common ores, such as Iron Ore.

Meanwhile, the mineral field Shi Feng stared at now clearly had more than low-end ore veins.

Based on the ores the Demonkins carted out, Shi Feng knew that the mineral field housed an Ancient Bronze vein.

Ancient Bronze Ore was not common in God's Domain. However, demand for Ancient Bronze Ore wasn't particularly high among players. This was because there weren't nearly enough ways to use Ancient Bronze Ore. Despite its rarity, it wasn't worth much.

However, Eternium Ore, a byproduct of mining Ancient Bronze Ore, was highly sought after by forging players. Magisteel Ingots, produced with Eternium Ore, were extremely useful when forging. Not only could the ingots improve one's forging success rate, but they could also slightly enhance the crafted weapons and equipment's Attributes. Of course, Magisteel Ingots could only boost an item's rank to a maximum of Fine-Gold rank.

Even so, countless forgers sought the tool.

Level 50-plus Fine-Gold equipment was still incredibly difficult to obtain, and after Level 50, most elite players could only equip Secret-Silver Equipment and below. Past Level 50, elite players would normally be equipped in Secret-Silver Equipment and below only.

Hence, Magisteel Ingots had a considerable market.

In the past, Magisteel Ingot had sold for 2 Gold per piece, yet plenty of players still fought over it.

If one could lay claim to this Medium Mineral Field, they could make a fortune with the mined Eternium Ore.

Considering the situation, Shi Feng couldn't help but harbor thoughts of capturing this mineral field.

Although he didn't know why a mineral field had suddenly spawned in the Boneless land, he was sure that this was a golden opportunity.

Setting the Eternium Ore aside, he could earn a fortune with the steady supply of Mana Ore this mineral field could provide. The only problem now was how to go about capturing the mineral field.

There were easily several thousand monsters stationed around the town's main entrance, and even more in the town's surroundings. In addition, the monsters inside the town were even more powerful. The town's Demon Supervisors were all Great Lords, and these were only the monsters on the surface. The town's true guardians were likely far stronger.

"Guild Leader, a monster patrol is moving our way. We need to hurry and leave this place," the scouting Ranger reported nervously as he watched the red dots on the system map.

The rest of the team nodded in agreement.

The monster patrols were a secondary issue. The main problem was the Purgatory Serpent sleeping by the town's main entrance. This was the first time any of them had seen such a large monster since joining God's Domain. Its aura was so strong that they even struggled to breathe.

The consequences would be unimaginable if they fought the monster patrols and accidentally attracted the Purgatory Serpent's attention.

None of them wanted to stay here for a moment longer.

"A patrol squad?" When Shi Feng saw the red dots on his system map, he suddenly smiled and said, "This is a good thing. For now, we'll level up here."

"Level up here?" Everyone turned towards their Guild Leader in confusion.

Trying to grind and level up in such a place was suicidal.

However, none of them realized that Shi Feng's true goal was the Demons' mineral field. Leveling up would simply be a side benefit. In Shi Feng's opinion, they first had to defeat the monsters around the town. Otherwise, these monsters would rush to aid the Guardian Boss in the town as soon as they began the battle. If that happened, they would definitely team-wipe.

Shi Feng had been pondering a way to lure the surrounding monsters in small numbers, but it seemed that the monsters had solved that problem for him.

The approaching patrol squad had less than 100 monsters, led by a hill-sized, Great Lord ranked Three-headed Hellhound.

Immediately, Shi Feng retrieved the Bible of Darkness and used Demon Summoning.

Naturally, he had a reason for daring to lead a bunch of low-level players to the Boneless Land. If it were any other location, it'd likely be impossible for Shi Feng to protect so many players by himself, but the Boneless Land was home to Demonic Creatures. To these monsters, the Bible of Darkness was like an Achilles heel.

Here, the Bible of Darkness could display its full potential.

After Shi Feng summoned a Level 78, Tier 3 Tomahawk Demon, he directed the Demon to charge at the approaching patrol squad.

Although one Level 78, Tier 3 Demon wasn't enough to take out nearly 100 Level 60-plus Demonic Creatures, it could distract them for a short period. Furthermore, Demon Ruler's passive effect increased Demonic Creatures' Attributes under Shi Feng's command by 30%, while also weakening enemy Demonic Creatures' Basic Attributes by 30%.

In moments, the Tomahawk Demon slaughtered the patrol squad's weaker monsters. At the same time, its HP continued to decrease. In the meantime, Shi Feng wasn't idle as he tried to use the Demon Ruler's active effect, granting him temporary control of up to three Demonic Creatures, on the Three-headed Hellhound.

Failure...

Failure...

Sure enough, it won't be that easy. The outcome of his attempts to control the Hellhound didn't particularly surprise Shi Feng. After all, the Skill only had a low success rate of 10%. Fortunately, he had the Tomahawk Demon to occupy the patrol squad.

Demon Ruler's active effect could only be used once every five minutes.

A congratulatory prompt only popped up in his notification window after Shi Feng's sixth attempt.

...

System: Congratulations! You have taken control of the Three-headed Hellhound. You have two hours of control.

...

As Shi Feng took control of the Three-headed Hellhound, thanks to Demon Ruler's passive effect, the Hellhound's Basic Attributes rose by 30%. Its HP also increased from 34,000,000 to 44,200,000.

With control of the Three-headed Hellhound, Shi Feng had a much easier time defeating the remaining monsters in the patrol squad. When the Hellhound and Tomahawk Demon worked together, they made quick work of the Lord ranked Demonic Flame Hounds.

After the first Level 64 Demonic Flame Hound died, Shi Feng noticed that his experience bar had risen by a small, but noticeable amount. He hadn't expected the abundant EXP. The Demonic Flame Hound had granted at least three times more EXP than a Lord ranked monster of the same level. The awarded EXP also surprised the members of his team. They had never thought that they'd receive so much.

Moreover, this was only the EXP from one Level 64 Lord.

In the end, Shi Feng had eliminated the patrol squad within an hour. Many of his players had gained an additional level during that time. Their leveling speed was just staggering.

Chapter 1615 – Primordial Divine Ruin

"Our Guild Leader is so awesome!"

The players from Zero Wing gazed at the monster corpses before them and the abundant EXP they had received with glowing, excited eyes. At this point, they had completely forgotten about their prior fear and worry.

When they had first noticed the approaching patrol squad, they had thought that they were dead for sure. Not only were the squad's Demonic Creatures above Level 60, but the weakest among them was a Chieftain. However, as they watched Shi Feng Summon a Level 73, Tier 3 Tomahawk Demon and take control of the Level 65 Great Lord ranked Three-headed Hellhound, they were dumbfounded.

They had never heard of any player being capable of such a feat.

Great Lord ranked monsters generally served as Final Bosses in Team Dungeons. They were extremely difficult to defeat, not to mention control.

With two Great Lord ranked monsters to assist Shi Feng in battle, eliminating all of the Level 60-plus Chieftains and Lords became child's play. Furthermore, any of the Demonic Creatures that came close to Shi Feng suffered a decrease to their Basic Attributes. From time to time, Shi Feng had even used powerful AOE's to assist the two Great Lords.

Shi Feng likely wiped this patrol squad out faster than the Guild's main force could.

However, their leveling speed was even more astonishing. They had never dreamed that it was possible to level up so quickly. They had leveled fast enough when the Guild's main force had taken them out to power-level, but compared to traveling with Shi Feng, the difference was like heaven and earth. In a single hour, they had gained a full level. If other players heard about this, they'd laugh it off as a joke.

As expected of the Bible of Darkness. It really is amazing against Demonic Creatures. Shi Feng was somewhat astounded as he glanced at the monster corpses littering the ground before him.

The Three-headed Hellhound and Tomahawk Demon were only one tier higher than the Lords and Chieftains, but after the Basic Attribute buff and debuff, the remaining patrol squad was powerless to retaliate.

Following which, Shi Feng began to collect the Demonic Creatures' loot.

Although the drop-rate for weapons and equipment decreased significantly after monsters reached Level 50, the Demonic Creatures in the patrol squad had all been Chieftain rank or higher. Hence, their loot was relatively generous. Overall, they had dropped over 20 Level 55 and Level 60 weapons and pieces of equipment. Most of the items were Bronze rank, while a few were Mysterious-Iron rank.

The monsters had also dropped plenty of materials and potions.

As Shi Feng picked up an aqua-blue potion bottle, his eyes began to glow.

Death Potion! The monsters here actually drop this? Shi Feng was elated as he examined the potion.

After players reached Level 50, they needed a tremendous amount of EXP to level up, and combat against monsters in the fields became increasingly difficult, making it easier to lose one's life. The various large Guilds in the past had struggled to cope with the increased difficulty, and dealing with it gave them all massive headaches.

The Death Potion had been a solution to their problem. When consumed, it halved the death penalty players would suffer. However, the potion was a one-time-use item. Once it was consumed, the potion would remain effective until the player died or logged out of the game.

Hence, the various large Guilds had fiercely contested over the Death Potion in the past.

Unfortunately, the potion had sold for a whopping 5 Gold due to its rarity and the fact that it only dropped in certain locations. Even so, it had become a must-have potion when hunting down powerful Field Bosses. The potion's only downside was that only Level 50 and above players could use it.

Shi Feng had never thought that these Demonic Creatures would drop such a valuable consumable. Moreover, he had obtained six Death Potions after killing one patrol squad with less than 100 monsters. This drop-rate was even higher than in the prime farming map he knew about...

Excited, Shi Feng controlled the Three-headed Hellhound and his Tomahawk Demon to take out another patrol squad.

The Bible of Darkness's Demon Ruler allowed him to control up to a maximum of three Demonic Creatures. Hence, Shi Feng continued to use the Skill and take control of more Three-headed Hellhounds.

By the time Shi Feng finished with the third patrol squad, he had three Three-headed Hellhounds under his control, and the moment Demon Summoning's Cooldown ended, he summoned another Tier 3 Demon.

With five Great Lord ranked monsters under his control, Shi Feng could slay the Demonic Creatures far faster. Every one of his teammates was stupefied.

After grinding for half a day, he had cleared out most of the Demonic Creatures around the town.

Meanwhile, his team members' levels skyrocketed despite having nearly 700 players on the team. Now, even the lowest-level member had reached Level 40, while the higher-level players had reached Level 42. Everyone had now caught up with mainstream players' levels. They only lacked weapons and equipment.

Since Shi Feng was the main DPS and his companions' levels were much lower, he received the majority of the EXP from the monsters he had killed. However, Shi Feng did not rush to level up. Instead, he used the EXP to upgrade the Seven Luminaries Ring's Auras.

Ever since evolving the Seven Luminaries Ring to Fragmented Legendary rank, the upgrading each Aura required an astonishing amount of EXP. Even he didn't dare to upgrade the carelessly. However, now that his level had exceeded frontline players' by a large margin, he wouldn't fall behind if he spent some of his EXP to upgrade the Seven Luminaries Ring.

Without hesitation, Shi Feng upgraded the Auras of Fire, Time, and Space by one level.

Now, instead of dealing 1,500% flame damage in a 60-yard radius, the Aura of Fire's Flame Domain inflicted 1,800% damage in a 70-yard radius. The Skill's Cooldown hadn't changed, remaining at five minutes.

As for the Aura of Time's Forbidden Domain, its AOE had increased from a 500-yard radius to a 600-yard radius. Its duration was still 30 seconds.

The Aura of Time's Space Movement had increased from a teleportation distance of 600,000 yards to 700,000 yards, and Spatial Gate's teleportation distance had increased from 300,000 yards to 350,000

yards. Both Skill's Cooldowns hadn't changed, though Spatial Gate's duration had increased from 1 minute to 1 minute, 20 seconds.

Although the Skills hadn't undergone qualitative transformations, they had improved various aspects for Shi Feng.

While he had killed the Demonic Creatures surrounding the town, Shi Feng had also acquired over 600 pieces of equipment. Unfortunately, the majority was Bronze Equipment, with only 50-plus pieces of Mysterious-Iron Equipment. In addition, he had obtained three pieces of Level 55 Secret-Silver Equipment and one piece of Level 60 Secret-Silver Equipment after he had lost control of the Three-headed Hellhounds and killed them.

Although Shi Feng had secured a lot of equipment, he didn't pay the items much mind. Rather, he was most interested in the 124 bottles of Death Potion he had obtained. He could either use them for the Guild or sell them, and either way, he'd benefit.

After spending most of the day killing Demonic Creatures, Shi Feng opened a Spatial Gate and teleported his team to another map to rest. Despite the fact that his team members had simply followed him around the entire time, their Stamina and Concentration were nearly gone. If they did not leave the Boneless Land now, they'd all die here.

As Shi Feng moved everyone to another map, Aqua Rose contacted, excitement and anxiety written across her face.

"Guild Leader, something new has happened in the Orc Empire. I don't know who triggered it, but a massive tower has suddenly risen in the empire's outer region! And Elves are guarding it! Based on what we've learned thus far, it seems the tower is a Primordial Divine Ruin. Apparently, it contains plenty of treasure and Level 50-plus, top-tier equipment. Some players have even spotted Epic Treasure Chests. Moreover, we've learned from the NPCs there that if we clear the tower, we'll receive a ticket to travel to the Primordial Battlefield. Players can learn Advanced Combat Techniques there. Star-Moon Kingdom's various large Guilds and those from other countries are frantically gathering at the divine ruin.

“Should we send some of our people over?”

As Aqua Rose spoke about the Primordial Divine Ruin, her eyes sparkled.

Just the fact that players could earn a ticket to the Primordial Battlefield was enough to tempt any Guild or player, not to mention the various treasure and top-tier equipment one could earn in the Primordial Divine Ruin. After all, combat techniques were extremely rare, and players created most of them. Even if a Guild had a combat technique, it wouldn't teach its members the technique lightly. Furthermore, the Primordial Battlefield offered Advanced Combat Techniques. Even if players failed to grasp an Advanced Combat Technique in its entirety, the knowledge they gained during the attempt to learn it would still help them strengthen their combat standards.

If Zero Wing missed this opportunity, it would fall behind the other Guilds in its development.

Furthermore, thanks to Zero Wing's new addition of 100 Refinement Realm experts, the various large Guilds had learned how valuable top-tier experts were.

Chapter 1616 – Skyrocketing Levels

A Primordial Divine Ruin in the Orc Empire? Shi Feng revealed a confused expression when he heard Aqua Rose's words. *How is that possible?*

Shi Feng was very familiar with Primordial Divine Ruins.

Unlike ordinary ruins and Team Dungeons, Primordial Divine Ruins tested players' survivability rather than their Basic Attributes and combat standards. They were similar to Regional Dungeons, only far more dangerous.

But danger and opportunity stood hand-in-hand. Primordial Divine Ruins offered far more treasures than elsewhere, and even the loot in super-large-scale Team Dungeons paled in comparison. Combat techniques, in particular, didn't drop in Team Dungeons.

Among the many players that had grasped combat techniques in the past, a large majority had learned their techniques from the Primordial Battlefield. In fact, 80% of the Advanced Combat Techniques players had learned had originated from the Primordial Battlefield.

Whenever a Primordial Divine Ruin had appeared in God's Domain, bloodbaths had followed.

Primordial Divine Ruins were similar to Team Dungeons as only a limited number of players could enter the ruins at a time. The number of players allowed to enter the ruins depended on the ruin's size, which could range from several thousand to several tens of thousands. On top of that, Primordial Divine Ruins only opened once a day.

Thus, to send as many of their members into the ruin as possible, the various large Guilds would try to prevent others from going in.

The simplest method was to wipe out any non-allied players in the designated area. If players weren't within the designated area when the Primordial Divine Ruin opened, they wouldn't be allowed in. Of course, if the number of players present in the designated area exceeded the limit, nobody would be allowed into the ruin. It would only open once the player population in the area decreased to the ruin's maximum limit.

And the profits one could gain from raiding the Primordial Divine Ruin were extraordinary.

The various large Guilds had done everything in their power to monopolize the Primordial Divine Ruins in the past. Many had waged war against other Guilds over the ruins, and one of these wars had even involved several Super Guilds.

The Primordial Divine Ruins had only begun to spawn after the various large Guilds had cleared Level 50 super-large-scale Team Dungeons in Shi Feng's previous life. He had never expected to find one so soon.

"Guild Leader, based on our current information, Heaven's Burial has turned its focus to this Primordial Divine Ruin. Singular Burial has even led Heaven's Burial's main force and a large number of experts to the ruin personally. By the looks of it, he seems adamant that he will secure the ruin. If we let Heaven's Burial's take advantage of this opportunity to learn combat techniques, they'll become a much larger problem for us," Aqua Rose said worriedly.

Currently, Zero Wing had an advantage over Heaven's Burial in field combat due to the Conqueror's Armor. Although the Guild exhausted a lot of its resources each day, Heaven's Burial didn't fare much better.

However, if Heaven's Burial obtained a large number of combat techniques and successfully nurtured Refinement Realm expert, the situation between their Guilds would change very quickly.

Moreover, one could obtain plenty of Level 50-plus top-tier equipment from the Primordial Divine Ruin, with no lack of Level 50 Fine-Gold Equipment. Usually, these items only dropped in 100-man Hell Mode Team Dungeons, yet they were common in the Primordial Divine Ruins. In fact, the ruin would even drop Level 50 Dark-Gold Equipment.

Although many superpowers' members had already reached Level 50, most of them wore a combination of Level 45 and Level 50 equipment. Zero Wing was no exception. If a Guild could gear its Level 50 members in sets of Level 50 top-tier equipment, it could increase its overall combat strength.

"No. Ignore the Primordial Divine Ruin for now. Instead, start raiding Level 50, 100-man Team Dungeons and improve everyone's equipment. Also, have our members challenge their Tier 2 Promotion Quests if they can," Shi Feng said, shaking his head and rejecting Aqua Rose's suggestion.

"We're not going to take part in the competition?" Aqua Rose frowned, confused about Shi Feng's decision.

The Primordial Divine Ruin was a shortcut that allowed players to obtain Level 50 top-tier equipment quickly, yet Shi Feng had decided to forego this opportunity, focusing on raiding Level 50, 100-man Team Dungeons for the equipment instead. If they did this, Heaven's Burial's members would definitely have better equipment than theirs.

"Mhm. Relax; we're talking about a Primordial Divine Ruin. How could it possibly be that easy to raid? Even if we get inside, we'll have to fight off the other Guilds. It's more practical to grind for weapons and equipment in Team Dungeons. Moreover, securing Level 50 equipment is our priority right now. Without proper weapons and equipment, You Ziping and the others will be useless to the Guild even after they reach Level 50," Shi Feng explained, chuckling.

Raiding a Primordial Divine Ruin was no less difficult than raiding a super-large-scale Team Dungeon of the same level. These sites focused on adventures for Tier 2 players specifically, and right now, the various large Guilds only had a small number of Level 50 players. Trying to raid a Primordial Divine Ruin with that level of power was a joke.

"When they reach Level 50?" Aqua Rose was somewhat astonished. "But they're only a little over Level 30 right now. Isn't it too early to prepare for this?"

As far as she knew, You Ziping and Zero Wing's other internal members had yet to reach Level 40. They'd still need a considerable amount of time before they reached Level 50. Meanwhile, even if Heaven's Burial failed to clear the Primordial Divine Ruin, it would still reap an impressive harvest.

"No. Although they can't compare to our elite members yet, they're all past Level 40 now. By the time you finish preparing the necessary Level 50 equipment, their levels should be high enough," Shi Feng said. He then sent Aqua Rose the latest information on You Ziping and the other trainees.

"Level 40?! No, this is... They've reached Level 42?!" Aqua Rose's jaw dropped when she saw the latest statistics on Zero Wing's internal members and the White Tiger Dojo's disciples. She simply could not believe it. "Guild Leader, what did you feed them? How have their levels increased so quickly?"

She was very aware of Shi Feng's capabilities. No other Guild member could compare to his leveling Speed. Even so, it'd be an impressive feat if Shi Feng could help You Ziping and his companions gain two levels in a day, yet, now...

She remembered that these players had been far from Level 40 the last time she had seen them. In fact, the lowest-level players among them had only been Level 31 and 32, yet every one of these 600-plus players had reached Level 40 and beyond after following Shi Feng...

"It's nothing. I just found a good grinding spot. I doubt that it'll be long before they're Level 50. At that time, I'll leave the equipment issue to you," Shi Feng said, smiling.

"Alright, leave it to me! I'll make sure that they all have proper sets of Level 50 Equipment as soon as they're the right level!" Aqua Rose said, nodding enthusiastically after recovering from her stupor.

You Ziping and the others were bona fide experts. A few of them were even a step away from the Refinement Realm. They only lacked levels and equipment. Once those issues were dealt with, they'd definitely elevate Zero Wing's strength to a whole new level.

Aqua Rose was excited just thinking about it.

She immediately disconnected the call and contacted the Guild's main force members, having them redirect their focus to raiding Level 50 Team Dungeons.

A sense of urgency squirmed within Shi Feng as well due to the Primordial Divine Ruin's appearance. After resting for a while longer, he activated Spatial Gate and teleported everyone back to their previous position outside of the Demon mineral field.

After resting in tents for several hours, everyone's Stamina and Concentration had mostly recovered. Shi Feng then summoned a Tier 3 Demon and began to eliminate the Demonic Creatures around the town once again.

Naturally, as everyone's levels continued to increase, their leveling speed slowed. Including the occasional breaks, the team had only cleared out the Demonic Creatures around the town after more than a day of fighting. Now, only the Purgatory Serpent remained, still guarding the town's main entrance.

As for the team, the lowest-level among them was now Level 43, while many had reached Level 45.

Although Shi Feng was not satisfied with the result, the rest of the team was ecstatic.

They had finally caught up with the Guild's elite members. Now, they could participate in the Guild's large-scale operations.

However, before they could celebrate, the Purgatory Serpent, which had entrenched itself in front of the town's entrance, opened its eyes. A resplendent glow radiated from its eyes, and mesmerizing divine ruins and curses began to cover the serpent's long body. A moment later, the Purgatory Serpent released a furious roar, and the players suddenly felt suffocated.

"How can this monster be so powerful?"

"Guild Leader, is that monster..."

As they watched the changes overcome the Purgatory Serpent, they thought of a possibility.

Evolution!

Chapter 1617 – Initial Display of Might

The Purgatory Serpent's body was starting to glow as well, its aura growing more intense. Even from over a thousand yards away, the players from Zero Wing could feel the power of the snake's aura, and they couldn't help but shudder. At this moment, it felt as if the Purgatory Serpent was this realm's overlord.

Everyone gulped nervously as they watched the serpent, fear flashing in their eyes. The confidence they had gained while leveling up had drowned in the Purgatory Serpent's terrifying aura.

It's evolving? Shi Feng's eyes twitched as he watched the thousand-meter-long Purgatory Serpent before him.

Monster evolution was common in God's Domain, particularly in field maps. In fact, players oftentimes considered themselves lucky if they ran across a monster during its evolution.

Normally, the various large Guilds monopolized Field Bosses, not giving other players the chance to raid them. However, evolved monsters were a different story. Monster evolutions were random, and when a monster evolved and its tier increased, it would become the equivalent of a Field Boss. Moreover, when players killed a recently evolved monster, it would drop better loot than usual.

However, an evolving Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species was no laughing matter...

The Purgatory Serpent's combat standards had already been quite high originally. It was likely one of the strongest Bosses in the Boneless Land. Even a team of Tier 2 experts of the same level would struggle to defeat it, and they might even team-wipe. If the Purgatory Serpent evolved into a Tier 4 Mythic monster, it would definitely be the strongest Boss in the Boneless Land. It would become a taboo monstrosity, something that most players would avoid.

As an Archaic Species, if the Purgatory Serpent reached Mythic rank, its combat power would even surpass an ordinary Mythic monster.

One such incident had occurred in Shi Feng's previous life. A Level 80 Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species had suddenly evolved, and with its evolution, its map had become a forbidden land to players. The map had only been liberated from the Level 80 Boss's tyranny after a Super Guild had sent a team of 1,000, Level 100 experts in to raid it. The team had also included over a dozen Tier 3 experts.

The Super Guild had only killed the Tier 4 Mythic ranked Archaic Species after sacrificing over 70% of the 1,000-man team and nearly half of the team's Tier 3 experts...

Although this Purgatory Serpent was only Level 70, if it evolved into a Tier 4 Mythic monster, it'd likely be impossible to defeat until players reached Level 100.

"Guild Leader, should we retreat? Once this monster finishes its evolution, it's perception range will definitely increase. We might not be safe here," You Ziping suggested.

While he had witnessed Shi Feng's prowess when working with five Level 65-plus Great Lords, he was no longer a noob. He knew that the most a Great Lord of the same level could do against a Tier 4 Mythic monster was buy some time. The five Great Lords under Shi Feng's control had no hope against the evolved Purgatory Serpent.

Retreat? Frustration flashed in Shi Feng's eyes as he glared at the Purgatory Serpent.

The Demon mineral field waited for him, and it was even a Medium Mineral Field that spawned Ancient Bronze Ore. Although the mineral field was not as valuable as a Manatite vein, it was worth enough. It would be especially helpful to Zero Wing, which currently lacked Mana Ore.

However, he also had no way to defeat a Tier 4 Mythic ranked Archaic Species.

This was nothing like his encounter with a Silvermoon Rate in the Dark Canyon.

The Silvermoon Rat had only been a Lord ranked monster with 18,000,000 HP. Killing it before its evolution had completed had been entirely possible.

However, the Purgatory Serpent was a Level 70 Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species. It had a massive 160,000,000 HP. The Purgatory Serpent was already a challenging foe in its original state. Now that it was evolving, it had become far stronger.

“Guild Leader?” You Ziping asked again after Shi Feng’s long silence.

“No. We still have a chance.” After watching the Purgatory Serpent for some time, Shi Feng noticed that runes on the serpent’s body progressed very slowly. Immediately, he commanded, “Everyone, get ready and follow me!”

Nothing ventured, nothing gained!

When he had cleared out the monsters around the town, he had felt that his mission was too easy. The monsters hadn’t been nearly as difficult as he had expected.

However, now that he thought about it, the Purgatory Serpent’s evolution might not involve luck at all. Rather, it may have been organized by the system.

This was an opportunity the system presented for the players. How else could he explain why the Purgatory Serpent had suddenly begun to evolve as soon as he cleared out the nearby Demonic Creatures?

The only explanation was that the system wanted players to defeat the Purgatory Serpent while it evolved.

If players failed to defeat the Purgatory Serpent and allowed its evolution, players would have no hope of acquiring the Demon mineral field until after they reached Level 100.

“What? The Guild Leader wants us to fight the Purgatory Serpent?”

As everyone watched Shi Feng dash towards the Purgatory Serpent, they began to wonder if he was a little too mad. They were only Level 40-plus players, still wearing Level 35 equipment. Starting a fight with the Purgatory Serpent would be suicidal.

But since their Guild Leader had issued the command, they had no choice but to grit their teeth as they approached the Boss.

In seconds, the team was within 1,000 yards from the evolving Grand Lord. The aura they felt radiating off of the Purgatory Serpent was much more intense as the players’ movements became somewhat sluggish.

Meanwhile, Shi Feng retrieved one Miniature Ballista after another from his bag. In total, he took out 30 Miniature Ballistas. He had initially prepared these war weapons to help him take out troublesome, high-rank Bosses in the Boneless Field, but due to the Bible of Darkness’ amazing benefits, he hadn’t found an opportunity to use the massive siege weapons.

“Split into five-man groups. Two groups will take turns manning each of the Miniature Ballistas. Leave the rest to me. Healers, follow me,” Shi Feng instructed. Following which, he approached the Purgatory Serpent alongside his five Great Lords.

Every monster evolution in God’s Domain took a considerable amount of time. Moreover, the higher tiered a monster was, the longer its evolution process would take to complete. In the case of a Grand

Lord ranked Archaic Species like the Purgatory Serpent, it should need roughly 30 minutes to finish evolving.

In other words, the system had only given them half an hour to eliminate the Purgatory Serpent. If they failed, they could return and challenge the Boss again after reaching Level 100. By then, however, the various superpowers would likely have discovered this area.

When Shi Feng's group was within 300 yards of the Purgatory Serpent, the evolving Grand Lord opened its amber eyes abruptly and glared at Shi Feng and the others. It roared angrily, radiating a dense killing intent that even made Shi Feng uncomfortable. However, despite its show of aggression, the serpent showed no intention of attacking. Instead, it diligently absorbed Mana from its surroundings as it continued to evolve.

It seems to be focusing on its evolution. Shi Feng smiled, feeling that their chance of success had risen.

Monsters could not move while they evolved. If they moved, their evolution would require more time. The process might even fail. Meanwhile, between dealing with them and continuing with its evolution, the Purgatory Serpent had obviously chosen the latter option.

This gave Shi Feng enough time to prepare.

"In a moment, I want every healer to focus on healing the Tomahawk Demon and pay attention to your positioning," Shi Feng commanded. Following which, he and his five Great Lords charged at the Purgatory Serpent.

As the rest of the team watched the Swordsman charge towards the Boss, they couldn't help but gape.

They wouldn't have been overly surprised if Shi Feng had used the Great Lords under his control as meat shields, but he had actually joined the assault. Moreover, he led the charge himself. He was simply insane.

They were dealing with a Level 70 Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species here. Even the strongest MT at this stage of the game would die after two or three hits.

What they didn't know was that Demon Ruler's passive effect only had a 200-yard range. If Shi Feng weren't within range of the Grand Lord, he wouldn't be able to weaken it.

However, Shi Feng didn't lead the charge due to Demon Ruler's range. Rather, he did so because he wanted to use Disintegration Field, which only had a pitiful range of 100 yards.

The Disintegration Field was also why Shi Feng thought that they had a chance of victory.

He hadn't truly witnessed the Disintegration Field's power after recasting the Disintegration Armor. He did not know how much the Skill could suppress the Purgatory Serpent.

Shi Feng stood within 100 yards of his target in the blink of an eye. At the same time, the Purgatory Serpent opened its mouth, and Mana began to gather within. It then fired a beam at Shi Feng.

It's time for you to show me your true power! Shi Feng then took the Disintegration Armor from his bag and activated Disintegration Field.

Immediately, a dark-gray energy rippled from the Disintegration Armor, quickly reaching the Purgatory Serpent. Wherever the energy passed, space loosened, and Mana vanished. The ground 100 yards around Shi Feng even began to dry up and crack.

Chapter 1618 – Disintegration Armor’s Power

As the Disintegration Field activated, the gathering Mana in the Purgatory Serpent’s mouth disintegrated.

The serpent’s Basic Attributes also began to decrease rapidly.

So strong! Shi Feng couldn’t help his surprise as he watched the Disintegration Field form.

The Demon Ruler’s passive effect already weakened Demonic Creatures by 30%. Although Disintegration Field hadn’t significantly weakened the Purgatory Serpent, it had further decreased the Grand Lord’s Basic Attributes to 50% of their original values. As a result, the Purgatory Serpent’s HP had fallen from 160,000,000 to 80,000,000. The effects of Disintegration Field were even more powerful than World Projection, which cost 5,000 Magic Crystals to activate.

However, the Disintegration Field’s special effect was far more frightening than the Basic Attribute decrease.

It was easy to Silence someone in God’s Domain, but thinning the environmental Mana was incredibly difficult. This was something the old Disintegration Field was not capable of doing.

Silencing Skills merely stopped a target’s flow of Mana. While Silencing Skills were useful against low-tiered players and monsters, most higher tiered players and monsters could remove the debuff.

Although these Skills were godly during the game's early stages, they'd become increasingly less effective as one progressed through the game.

Conversely, Skills capable of decreasing Mana density weren't much of an advantage. At most, these skills could weaken a target's Skills or Spells and their focus. However, such Skills would play a larger role later in the game.

Shi Feng had even seen Skills that could remove a target's Mana entirely in the past. By doing so, not only could a player prevent their target from using Skills or Spells, but the Skills would also dull a target's senses.

Although the Disintegration Field wasn't powerful enough to remove all of the Mana in range, only thinning it, it was still incredibly effective. At the very least, it was stronger than ordinary Silencing Skills against high-tiered monsters and players.

"What did the Guild Leader just do? How did the Purgatory Serpent's Mana decrease so drastically?"

When they realized the Purgatory Serpent's aura and Basic Attributes had weakened, Shi Feng's team members were shocked.

They all knew that the stronger a monster was, the harder it would be to suppress its Attributes. Even with an Intermediate Magic Array, players would be fortunate to reduce a Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species' Attributes by 20%, yet Shi Feng had suppressed the Purgatory Serpent to 50% of its Basic Attributes. Moreover, none of them had seen Shi Feng use any sort of magic array to suppress the Boss. This was simply unheard of.

Suddenly, the Purgatory Serpent spat massive, emerald fireballs at Shi Feng, each the size of a small hill. They were incredibly fast, nearly impossible to dodge.

“Guild Leader!” the Zero Wing players shouted as they watched the giant fireballs surround Shi Feng.

Although the Purgatory Serpent’s Attributes had been significantly reduced, it was still an Archaic Species. As weakened as it was, it wasn’t an enemy low-level players like them could hope to defeat.

So fast! When Shi Feng saw the incoming fireballs, he instinctively activated Heavenly Dragon’s Power and Void Shield.

He then brandished his swords to block the attacks.

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

As the fireballs descended, they shook the ground, and scorching flames filled the area. The powerful impacts formed one crater after another around Shi Feng.

As the emerald flames scattered, the Purgatory Serpent revealed a human-like sneer. Zero Wing’s members paled at the sight.

The power each fireball contained could rival a large-scale destruction Spell...

Meanwhile, Shi Feng was only a Swordsman, not an MT. He could never survive such a bombardment.

As the team began to believe that Shi Feng had died, one player pointed at the team status window and shouted, "Huh?! Guys, look at the Guild Leader's HP bar in the team window!"

"What?! The Guild Leader's HP bar is full! How is that possible?!"

Everyone soon noticed Shi Feng's HP bar in the team status window; his HP hadn't fallen in the least.

As the flames and smoke subsided, they revealed a quite figure standing among the numerous craters.

This figure was none other than Shi Feng. Not even the barrier protecting him showed any signs of damage.

As expected of an Archaic Species. Despite the reduction to its Basic Attributes, it can still execute such a powerful Spell. Shi Feng sighed ruefully as he examined the Void Shield around him. Although it appeared unharmed, the attacks had claimed nearly a quarter of its HP.

Heavenly Dragon's Power increased his maximum HP by 500%, and Void Shield formed a protective barrier with ten times his maximum HP. In other words, the Void Shield could absorb over -4,000,000 damage, yet one of the Purgatory Serpent's Spells had devoured nearly a quarter of that.

Had he not activated Void Shield in time, the attacks would've burned him to ash even with Heavenly Dragon's Power active.

While the Purgatory Serpent had attacked Shi Feng, the Tomahawk Demon and the other Great Lords under Shi Feng's control had surrounded the Grand Lord and moved outside of the Disintegration Field's range.

Without hesitation, all five Great Lords assaulted the Purgatory Serpent with one Tier 3 Skill after another.

The Purgatory Serpent cried out in agony as the powerful attacks found their mark, and damages of around -700,000 began to appear above the Grand Lord's head. In the blink of an eye, the Purgatory Serpent lost over 3,000,000 HP.

What a high Defense! Shi Feng frowned when he saw the damages.

Normally, Great Lords' Tier 3 Skills and Spells should deal over a million damage to a Grand Lord of the same level, yet these attacks had only dealt around -700,000 damage. There was no doubt that the Purgatory Serpent's Defense was extraordinary.

When the Purgatory Demon had been attacked, it turned its attention towards the five Great Lords around it. With a furious bellow, the serpent rammed its head into the Tomahawk Demon.

Due to the Purgatory Serpent's massive size, the Tomahawk Demon didn't have any time to dodge. It had no choice but to defend itself with its battle axe, and upon collision, it was sent flying over several dozen yards away, losing over 300,000 HP in the process. The difference between the monsters' Strength was obvious at a glance. The Grand Lord's shifting body also struck the other Great Lords, though they didn't receive as much damage as the Tomahawk Demon.

For a time, the Purgatory Serpent overwhelmed the five Great Lords, and they continuously lost HP.

This snake's Strength is really something. It can practically rival a Mythic monster of the same level. The Purgatory Serpent's Strength astonished Shi Feng. Fortunately, not only had the Grand Lord's Basic

Attributes decreased by 50%, but it was also stuck in its position. Otherwise, defeating the five Great Lords would be child's play with the Purgatory Serpent's combat power.

Once his five Great Lords had secured the Purgatory Serpent's aggro, Shi Feng gave the command to the distant Zero Wing members to begin their attacks with the Miniature Ballistas.

Immediately, the 30 Miniature Ballistas surrounded the Grand Lord and fired.

When the Exploding Arrows, which rivaled Tier 2 Spells in power, struck the Purgatory Serpent, the Grand Lord's HP swiftly decreased. Each Exploding Arrow dealt between -50,000 to -60,000 damage; one volley dealt over -1,500,000 damage.

Shi Feng wasn't idle, either. After commanding the attack, he charged forward and assailed the Purgatory Serpent. Although he could not deal as much damage as the Miniature Ballistas, every hit he landed claimed over 10,000 of the Grand Lord's HP. He used every Skill in his arsenal to devour as much of the Purgatory Serpent's HP as possible.

If they could not defeat the Purgatory Serpent before its evolution completed, they'd likely die here.

As time passed, the Purgatory Serpent's HP gradually decreased.

90%... 80%... 70%...

When the Purgatory Serpent's HP fell to 20%, it could no longer sit still. It gave up on absorbing Mana to complete its evolution and whipped around its colossal tail, sending powerful attacks at Shi Feng and the

five Great Lords. At the same time, it opened its maw and began to gather a terrifying amount of Mana. As it did so, a gigantic, twofold magic array gradually formed before its open jaws.

“Crap! Everyone, move away from the Boss’s front! Healers, gather together!” When Shi Feng saw this, he rushed towards the healers and activated Absolute Domain.

However, Shi Feng’s warning had little effect as the Purgatory Serpent gathered Mana too quickly. By the time Shi Feng reached the core of the healer group, the Purgatory Serpent had released its Death Breath, firing a blistering, black beam from its mouth. Any player or Miniature Ballista in the beam’s way was vaporized instantly.

With a single attack, the Purgatory Serpent had severely injured three Great Lords, destroyed 11 Miniature Ballistas, and killed over 200 players...

Everyone was dumbfounded. They never thought that the Purgatory Serpent would be so powerful despite abandoning its chance to evolve.

“It doesn’t have much HP left! Attack with everything you’ve got!” Shi Feng commanded, breathing a sigh of relief when he noticed that two of the Great Lords could still attack. The team’s healers were also unharmed. Although trying to pin down the Purgatory Serpent with two Great Lords was pushing his luck, they should be able to survive the Grand Lord’s attacks with the help of the healers’ Healing Spells and his Life Domain, albeit barely.

However, the Purgatory Serpent’s Strength and speed had increased significantly after it abandoned its evolution. If the Tomahawk Demon weren’t careful and received a direct hit, it would lose hundreds of thousands of HP instantly, one or two million if it received a Skill or Spell attack. Despite Life Domain’s healing, the Tomahawk Demon still rapidly lost HP.

In contrast, the Purgatory Serpent’s HP decreased very slowly.

15%... 10%... 8%... 6%...

As the Purgatory Serpent's HP fell to 4%, the Tomahawk Demon could no longer hold on, and it died, leaving a single uninjured Great Lord and three wounded Great Lords to tank the Grand Lord.

From time to time, the Purgatory Serpent cast its Spells, instantly killing the distant Zero Wing members. Now, less than half of the team was standing, and only ten of the Miniature Ballistas remained intact...

When Heavenly Dragon's Power's duration ended, Shi Feng followed up with Power of Darkness. He used every attack method he had to whittle down the Grand Lord's remaining HP.

Yet, as if the Purgatory Serpent refused to lose any more HP, it took the team a long time to drop it to 1%.

When the Purgatory Serpent only had 1% of its HP remaining, Shi Feng's team began to lose members even faster.

"Die!"

When Shi Feng noticed his DPS drop, he gritted his teeth and activated Blade Liberation. He then swung Killing Ray at the monstrous Purgatory Serpent.

Purgatory Pentaslash!

Shi Feng landed five consecutive hits with his Sacred Sword, each stronger than the last. With all five attacks, Shi Feng had shoved the Purgatory Serpent's massive frame back by over ten yards. The ground even trembled under the might of his attacks.

Once Shi Feng's chain-attack ended, the Purgatory Serpent's HP fell to zero. Like a puppet with cut strings, the Grand Lord collapsed to the ground, shattering the earth beneath it...

Chapter 1619 – Frightening Aura

"It's dead! The Boss is finally dead!"

The surviving Zero Wing members breathed a sigh of relief as the Purgatory Serpent fell.

Originally, they had nearly 700 players on the team, but now, less than 200 remained. Only six of the 30 Miniature Ballistas had survived the fight, as well. Had the raid lasted any longer, the Purgatory Serpent would've likely annihilated them.

Fortunately, they secured victory in the end.

After the Purgatory Serpent died, the surviving players watched their experience bars rapidly fill. In the blink of an eye, many of them leveled up. Even those that had not had gained over half of a level.

However, these players were more surprised about the loot the Purgatory Serpent had dropped.

Although the Grand Lord had not evolved to Mythic rank, it had been in the middle of its evolutionary state. Hence, the quality of its loot had improved slightly.

Moreover, Shi Feng had activated Divine Providence before dealing the final blow. Both factors resulted in the Purgatory Serpent dropping an abundant amount of loot. Overall, the Boss had dropped over 80 items, and every one of them glowed with a dazzling light that instantly captured the players' attention.

In addition, a towering pillar of light rose for the pile of loot, lasting nearly five seconds before it faded.

“Crap! What kind of loot is that? How can items cause such a phenomenon?”

“Epic rank?”

“No! An Epic item wouldn't cause such a commotion. I wonder if its a rumored Legendary rank item?”

“Forget Legendary items; I could become so much stronger if I could get my hands on an Epic item. My development would skyrocket.

Everyone stared at the small mountain of loot, dumbfounded. They were ravaged with curiosity about the items the Grand Lord had dropped.

At this point, Epic Weapons and Equipment were the strongest gear the various large Guilds had seen in God's Domain, but everyone had already seen these items before. They knew that Epic items couldn't cause such a phenomenon. The only thing they could think of that would cause something like this was a Legendary item.

As the light pillar disappeared, the Zero Wing players fought the urge to run towards the loot.

They'd have an easy future if they obtained even one Epic item, not to mention a Legendary item. With a Legendary item, they'd never have to worry about daily necessities for the rest of their lives.

But despite such thoughts, none of them moved a muscle as they admired the pile of items. Nobody dared to take a single step forward. Even the outsiders, the White Tiger Dojo's disciples, stayed where they stood.

First, this was a Guild operation, and any items obtained during the operation belonged to the Guild. Furthermore, they were internal members, nurtured by the Guild. They wouldn't even earn GCPs during this operation, much less items.

Secondly, Shi Feng had basically killed the Purgatory Serpent by himself. They simply operated the Miniature Ballistas and helped deal damage. They hadn't contributed in any essential way.

Although the White Tiger Dojo's disciples weren't pleased about the outcome, even if they wanted to steal a few items, none of them had the courage to do so with a monstrous player like Shi Feng standing beside the pile.

Although they had known that Zero Wing's Black Flame was incredibly strong, they hadn't realized exactly how strong before today, but after watching Shi Feng dominate a Level 70 Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species by himself, they realized how wide the gap was between them and their leader.

“Zero Wing’s Guild Leader is inhuman! He sent a monster as powerful and massive as the Purgatory Serpent flying with a single attack! Just how high are his Attributes?”

“So, this is Zero Wing’s rumored strength? The Guild is actually powerful enough to kill a Level 70 Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species at this stage of the game. Even Super Guilds might not be able to do so.”

“It’s no wonder the Hall Master wanted us to train in Zero Wing. If I had one-third of that man’s standards, I could achieve something great in God’s Domain.”

As the White Tiger Dojo’s disciples watched Shi Feng appraise the loot, their previous contempt for Zero Wing transformed into awe and admiration.

Had they encountered such a situation when they had first joined God’s Domain, they wouldn’t have spared a glance at Shi Feng’s performance, but after playing the game for some time, they realized that God’s Domain was no ordinary virtual reality game. This game’s experts were more impressive than those in other games, especially experts like Shi Feng.

Although it had seemed as if Shi Feng’s movements and attacks had been random throughout the battle, every one of his movements had been carefully calculated. Shi Feng had constantly guided the Purgatory Serpent during the battle, reducing the risk of the Grand Lord damaging the team as much as possible.

Had Shi Feng not been there to guide the Purgatory Serpent’s attacks, they’d likely be lying on the ground right now.

Meanwhile, as Shi Feng reached the small mountain of items, he began to collect and appraise the loot.

The Purgatory Serpent had dropped a total of 84 items. Among them, 31 were precious Epic materials, such as the Purgatory Serpent's Skin and Scales, 16 potions, 11 Tier 2 Magic Scrolls, one Tier 3 Magic Scroll, and three Tier 2 Skill Books. All three Skill Books contained considerably rare Tier 2 Skills; one offered the Tier 2 Skill, Divine Shield, for Guardian Knights, one offered the Tier 2 Skill, Fire Snake Dance, for Elementalists, and one contained the Tier 2 Skill, Titan's Hand, for Berserkers.

Titan's Hand was the rarest of the three Skills, one which all Berserkers dreamed of wielding. The Skill was neither a damage Skill nor did it offer some heaven-defying Defensive ability. Instead, it allowed players to wield two two-handed weapons for a short time, significantly improving Berserkers' DPS and combat abilities.

An additional weapon also meant an additional boost to a player's Attributes. Moreover, wielding two weapons allowed players to use more complex attack patterns. In addition, Berserkers didn't have to worry about a lack of Strength in their attacks like dual-wielding Swordsmen due to the nature of two-handed weapons. Hence, Titan's Hand was a highly sought after Skill for Berserkers.

In fact, the Skill's market value was on par with Tier 3 Skills.

Of the remaining loot, there were nine pieces of Level 60 Secret-Silver Equipment, four pieces of Level 60 Fine-Gold Equipment, two pieces of Level 60 Dark-Gold Equipment, one pair of Epic ranked cloth shoes, two Mana Stones, one engineering design, one alchemy recipe, and one forging design. The last item, however, was a blood-red stone engraved with glowing, golden divine runes.

Sure enough, the Demon mineral field's Guardian Boss was quite extraordinary. Shi Feng was clearly ecstatic when he saw the blood-red stone.

Even he had wondered what kind of item would cause such a phenomenon, releasing such a powerful aura.

But even after appraising most of the loot, he hadn't found any particularly special items. The most powerful item was the Epic ranked cloth shoes, but no Epic item could cause such a dazzling event.

Upon appraising the blood-red stone, however, Shi Feng realized that this stone had been the cause of the commotion.

The stone was none other than the Bloodline every player in God's Domain dreamed of obtaining.

However, this Bloodline wasn't like those he had obtained in the past. The Dark Iron Bloodline he had obtained during his visit to the Divine Staircase had been personally crafted by a God, but the Bloodline in his hand had formed naturally. Hence, it had taken the form of a stone rather than a gentle liquid.

Chapter 1620 – Natural Bloodline

“What's up with the Guild Leader? Why is he staring at that blood-red stone?”

“Is there something special about it?”

“What's so special about a stone? It's just raw material. I wonder what kind of equipment the Purgatory Serpent dropped? It'd be insane if it dropped a piece of Legendary Equipment!”

“Don’t be crazy! No matter how you look at it, a Grand Lord will never drop a Legendary item. Though, it might have a high chance of dropping a Fragmented Legendary item. If our Guild obtains a Fragmented Legendary item, the Super Guilds will go mad with jealousy!”

The players from Zero Wing launched into a discussion about the Purgatory Serpent’s loot, growing particularly excited as they talked about the possibility of a Fragmented Legendary item dropping.

Players in the various large Guilds had begun to reach Level 50, and some of the Guilds had already obtained a few Epic items. However, no one had heard of a Guild obtaining a Fragmented Legendary item.

If Zero Wing found a Fragmented Legendary item, it would become the Guild’s prized treasure, serving as a symbol of the Guild’s strength. Such an item would definitely elevate the Guild’s reputation since it would be the first Guild in God’s Domain to possess such an item.

Almost everyone who played virtual reality games paid attention to weapons and equipment. Apex weapons and equipment, in particular, were highly sought after.

If news spread of Zero Wing’s procurement of a Fragmented Legendary item, even players in other kingdoms and empires would learn of their Guild, much less Star-Moon Kingdom’s players.

A flood of players would visit their Guild Residences to join Zero Wing, making it much easier for the Guild to recruit experts and continue to increase its strength.

A Fragmented Legendary item? Shi Feng could not help but chuckle when he overheard the hushed conversations.

Zero Wing had acquired Fragmented Legendary items long ago, and the Guild actually had more than one. Although they were correct that a Fragmented Legendary item could improve Zero Wing's reputation, great wealth brought great misfortune.

Although the Guild's fame would skyrocket if the public knew that Zero Wing possessed Fragmented Legendary items, it would also earn the Guild an endless number of enemies. Hence, he had forbidden the Guild's upper echelons speaking about these items to the public.

Moreover, the blood-red stone in his hand was far more valuable than a Fragmented Legendary item.

Bloodlines were extremely rare in God's Domain, even rarer than Fragmented Legendary items. When a Bloodline was found, even Super Guilds would use every weapon in their arsenal to obtain it, and the resulting bloodbaths would be horrendous.

Obtaining a Bloodline increased a Guild's chance of nurturing an apex expert. Moreover, as players reached higher levels, the Bloodline's benefits would become more prominent. After a certain level, these benefits would even surpass those of a Fragmented Legendary item.

Furthermore, the stone in his hand was a naturally occurring Bloodline, not an artificial Bloodline crafted by Ancient Gods.

There were two types of Bloodlines in God's Domain. The first type included the Ancient Gods' creations, the main Bloodline source in God's Domain. The second type involved naturally occurring Bloodlines.

The first type formed by drawing on the Ancient Gods' power, and in terms of potential, these Bloodlines were slightly weaker than their natural counterparts.

Regardless, both types of Bloodline had their own advantages. Those created by the Ancient Gods catered to specific aspects. For example, Shi Feng's Dark Iron Bloodline improved his compatibility with melee Skills, helping him increase his Skill Compatibility Rates. On the other hand, natural Bloodlines weren't as specialized, but in return, they provided greater boons to Basic Attributes.

Due to the nature of these Bloodlines, players who used them were generally known as humanoid monsters. To players who wanted to push the limits of their Basic Attributes, natural Bloodlines were invaluable.

Shi Feng couldn't believe he had actually obtained a natural Bloodline from killing a Level 70 Grand Lord. Even though it had been an Archaic Species, it shouldn't have had a chance of dropping one, yet it had.

If the Demon Players in the World Summit found out about this, they'd die of envy.

Despite the various Demon Players trying desperately to ascend the Divine Staircase, they struggled to earn enough Shrine Points to purchase a Bloodline, yet Shi Feng had obtained one after killing a single monster. Moreover, the raid had been relatively easy, with one boss and no mobs.

Moreover, this stone was top-tier among Basic Bloodlines. It was called the Shadow Bloodline.

...

[Shadow Bloodline]

Weakens presence and aura significantly. Effects double when in darkness. Improvements focus on Agility, followed by Strength, Endurance, Intelligence, and Vitality.

...

Although the Shadow Bloodline's benefits to a player's combat power weren't as apparent as the Ancient Gods' Bloodlines, it would undoubtedly increase an Assassin or Ranger's survivability. Decreasing one's presence and aura wasn't just effective against other players, but monsters would also struggle to notice the player. Rangers and Assassins with the Shadow Bloodline would be able to explore high-level maps with ease, and they could enter places that players normally avoided. They could enter places that players normally could not set foot into.

The Shadow Bloodline alone was more valuable than the Purgatory Serpent's combined loot.

This trip was definitely worth it. Shi Feng could not help but smile at the Shadow Bloodline.

Neither Epic Equipment nor precious tools could help nurture a true apex expert, but the Shadow Bloodline could. In fact, it might even help a player become a Tier 6 God-ranked expert.

Even if he gave the Shadow Bloodline to an ordinary Assassin or Ranger in the Guild, he could instantly nurture an astonishingly powerful expert, let alone experts like Fire Dance.

When Shi Feng finally finished admiring the Shadow Bloodline, he stored it in his bag. He had no intention of informing the others about the item. After he finished with the remaining loot, he instructed his team to rest up and prepare to enter the town.

No one gave Shi Feng's decision much thought. They simply did as they were told while the healers resurrected the dead.

Meanwhile, the magic barrier around the town had vanished after the Purgatory Serpent's death. Players could now enter the town without hindrance.

Of course, chaos ensued in the town. The Demonkin, who had been mining the ores, ran around in a panic while the Demon Supervisors angrily suppressed the undisciplined Demonkin.

...

[Demonkin] (Demonic Creature, Chieftain)

Level 70

HP 9,000,000/9,000,000

[Demon Supervisor] (Demonic Creature, Great Lord)

Level 72

HP 38,500,000/38,500,000

...

To Shi Feng, this chaos was an opportunity.

There were easily more than ten thousand monsters in the town, and if they moved like an organized army, capturing the town's mineral field would likely be impossible.

However, he could take advantage of the fight between the Demonkin and the Demon Supervisors, slowly clearing out the monsters in the town.

Shi Feng didn't hurry to enter the town after his slain team members resurrected. Instead, he activated a Spatial Gate and sent them out of the Boneless Land to rest and recover.

His team's Stamina and Concentration had almost depleted during the previous battle, and there was no doubt that they were in for a long, arduous battle once they entered the town. They had to recover their Stamina and Concentration first.

Time passed quickly. Once everyone had recovered, Shi Feng led them back to the town's perimeter.

"Everyone, get ready! Once my Great Lords secure the monsters' aggro, you'll attack with the remaining Miniature Ballistas! Do not let any of the Demonkin or Demon Supervisors get close!" Shi Feng ordered. He then took a deep breath before pushing open the town's steel gates.

The instant Shi Feng entered the town, a horrific killing intent washed over him, shocking him awake. A series of system notifications then bombarded his ears.

Chapter 1621 – Lost Town

When the Demon Town's rune-covered gates opened, it felt as if some seal on the town had been removed as a chilling aura of killing intent surged out of the town's gate.

"What kind of town is this? Why does it have such a powerful aura?"

"Crap! My Attributes are decreasing!"

As the players from the White Tiger Dojo and Zero Wing prepared for battle some distance away, they couldn't help but shudder the moment Shi Feng opened the gates.

There was a massive difference between the aura they felt as the gates opened and the aura they had felt while looking at the Demon Town from the distant hillside. If the aura they had felt before was air, the aura they felt now was as heavy and dense as sea water.

Not only did the powerful aura bring with it an intense mental pressure, making it hard for them to think, but their Attributes had also begun to spiral downward. In the blink of an eye, their Basic Attributes had decreased by 30%...

Shi Feng, who had already entered the town, wasn't surprised by the sudden change. However, he was surprised by the system notifications he had received.

...

System: Congratulations! You have discovered a Lost Town.

System: Congratulations! You have triggered the Epic ranked Main Storyline Quest “Demon’s Nest.”

System: Do you wish to accept this quest? If you abandon this quest, the Lost Town will disappear due to its broken seal. You have one hour to consider. If you do not make a decision within the hour, the quest will automatically be abandoned.

...

Why is there a Lost Town here? Shi Feng looked at the system notifications in confusion.

Aside from its kingdoms, empires, and neutral towns and cities, God’s Domain had towns that had been left behind by ancient civilizations. Unfortunately, these towns didn’t have official names since their history had been lost, leaving them with the title of ‘Lost Town.’

Lost Towns weren’t like ordinary towns.

All of the Lost Towns contained power and abilities, which other towns didn’t have, that their ancient civilization had left behind. These abilities had different levels of strength. Some could even help a first-rate Guild develop into a super-first-rate Guild in a short amount of time, although even Lost Towns with weaker abilities could tempt a superpower into action. This was due to the abilities’ unique nature in God’s Domain.

In the past, many wars had been waged between God's Domain's superpowers over these Lost Towns. There had even been one instance involving over ten superpowers.

Shi Feng had never expected to find a Lost Town in the Boneless Land. The mineral field was nothing compared to the town itself.

It's no wonder why I hadn't heard of a town in the Boneless Land in the past. This restriction is likely the reason that no one ever found it. Shi Feng could not help but smile bitterly at the system notification.

Regardless of how powerful a Lost Town was, they were all incredibly difficult to claim. There was no turning back if one missed the opportunity. Once a Lost Town disappeared, it was gone forever.

The players that had found the Boneless Land's Lost Town had likely failed the quest, causing its disappearance. If that were the case, it was only natural that no one had ever heard of it.

Of course, Shi Feng accepted the quest.

Although he did not know what this Lost Town's function was, Zero Wing would miss out on a golden opportunity to grow stronger if he abandoned it.

...

System: Congratulations! You have accepted the Epic ranked Main Storyline Quest, "Demon's Nest."

Quest content: You are required to collect 100 Darkness Stones to re-seal the anchor within 10 natural days. If you fail to do so, the Demon King of a specific Planar World will hunt you endlessly. You will also permanently lose 100 points from all Attributes and 10 Levels. Quest reward unknown.

...

Crap! Shi Feng nearly spat blood when he read the quest content.

He finally understood why the players who had discovered the Boneless Land's Lost Town had failed the quest to acquire it.

This quest was beyond difficult. It was a joke!

Darkness Stones were like Mana Stones. They contained a frightening amount of Power of Darkness, which Demon Players could use to improve the Power of Darkness within. In the past, Demon Players had even spent up to 500 Gold per Darkness Stone.

Yet, this quest required him to gather 100 Darkness Stones within 10 natural days. This quest was asking for the impossible.

Darkness Stones were immensely rare, and normally, on Mythic ranked Dark Creatures had a chance of dropping them. Even if he were extremely lucky, and every Mythic Dark Creature he killed dropped one, he'd still have to kill 100 of them...

With his current standards, killing one Mythic Dark Creature would be impossible, let alone 100. Not even Super Guilds could accomplish such a feat.

Mythic monsters weren't easy to find, and Mythic ranked Dark Creatures were an even rarer sight. Hunting down 100 Mythic ranked Dark Creatures in 10 days would be nearly impossible.

When Shi Feng saw the penalty for failing the quest, he was speechless.

The penalty was extraordinarily ruthless.

While he could accept losing 10 levels and 100 points in every Attribute, dealing with a Tier 5 Demon King's tenacious hunt was no laughing matter. Meanwhile, he wasn't nearly powerful enough to kill a Demon King. Every Demon King had the power to engulf a kingdom in flames. Even Tier 4 players would be little more than ants before a Tier 5 Demon King, much less a Tier 2 player like Shi Feng...

"Guild Leader, has something happened?" Zero Wing's members asked curiously when they realized that Shi Feng hadn't moved for some time.

Forget it. Let's just secure the town and get the Mana Ore. Shi Feng shook his head to clear his mind. There was no point in pondering the quest since he didn't have a solution for obtaining the 100 Darkness Stones. Following which, he commanded, "Everyone, prepare for battle!"

As Shi Feng gave the command, the team members began to push the Miniature Ballistas forward, following after their leader. At the same time, Shi Feng controlled his four remaining Great Lords to lure some of the battling Demonkin and Demon Supervisors.

Unlike the players, whose Basic Attributes had been suppressed when the town's gates had opened, the Demonic Creatures within were unaffected. Fortunately, Shi Feng had the Bible of Darkness, and with the Demon Ruler's suppression, dealing with the Chieftain ranked Demonking and Great Lord ranked Demon Supervisors became easy.

After Shi Feng's Great Lords gathered some Demonic Creatures, Shi Feng activated Flame Domain while Zero Wing's members attacked with the remaining siege weapons.

After around 20 minutes, the team had cleared out a wave of Demonkin and Demon Supervisors. When the monsters died, the players' experience bars rose by a sizable chunk. However, these monsters granted considerably less EXP than the Demonic Creatures they had killed outside of the town. In fact, they had awarded even less EXP than ordinary monsters of the same rank and level.

Even so, these players' leveling speed was multiple times faster than peak experts.

As for the Demonkin and Demon Supervisors' loot, it simply couldn't compare to the loot the Demonic Creatures had dropped. Despite killing over a hundred Demonkin and several Demon Supervisors, the team had only obtained six pieces of Bronze Equipment and one piece of Mysterious-Iron Equipment.

As Shi Feng collected the loot, however, he discovered several black crystals beside the Demonic monsters corpses.

What?! This is Mana Ore! Shi Feng had nearly thought his eyes had played a trick on him when he saw the black crystals on the ground. Everyone in God's Domain knew that the monsters didn't drop Mana Ore, but it was nearly impossible that Shi Feng, who was both a Master Forger and extremely familiar with the metal, would mistake the item.

After carefully examining the corpses, Shi Feng found 17 ingots of Mana Ore, over a hundred ingots of Ancient Bronze Ore, and three ingots of Eternium Ore.

Even if one mined an Ancient Bronze vein, they likely wouldn't obtain a single ingot for every 30 ingots of Ancient Bronze Ore. And players would be very lucky to gain a single ingot of Eternium Ore for every

100 ingots of Ancient Bronze Ore, yet Shi Feng had obtained so much after killing a few Demonkin and Demon Supervisors. This was inconceivable...

Chapter 1622 – Struggle over the Primordial Divine Ruin

Shi Feng wasn't the only player surprised to discover that the Demonkin and Demon Supervisors dropped Mana Ore.

"Hey, do those rocks look like Mana Ore to you?"

"Mhm. I've seen Mana Ore before. They should be Mana Ore!"

"Isn't Mana Ore a rare drop when mining? I never knew that monsters dropped it, too."

None of these players was a stranger to Mana Ore.

Due to the disturbance the Orc Empire had caused, the kingdoms and empires neighboring the Orc Empire had activated a contribution system that allowed players to purchase precious items. The contribution system had also lured many players towards the Orc Empire.

If players wanted to ease the task of killing the empire's Orcs, the Mana Charm, crafted with Mana Ore, was a must-have.

Currently, Mana Ore sold for 1 Gold, 20 Silver per piece. Moreover, this price continued to rise, yet their team had obtained over a dozen pieces of Mana Ore after killing one Demonic Creature group. They had just made over 20 Gold in profit, and this included the cost of repairing their weapons and equipment. Even expert players were fortunate to earn 1 Gold a day.

Furthermore, the various large Guilds currently viewed Mana Ore as a strategic item. With so many people eyeing the ore, it was hard to purchase even if one could afford the cost.

And their profit would be even greater if they used all of the Mana Ore to craft Mana Charms.

The Mana Charm was a Consumable item, and one could craft 10 charms with a single piece of Mana Ore. Currently, Mana Charms sold for 20 Silver each.

“Alright, we’re moving on to the next wave!” After Shi Feng collected the loot, he had his monsters lure another wave of Demonic Creatures.

In the previous fight, Shi Feng had taken control of a Demon Supervisor, and he had five Great Lords under his command once more, making it much easier to defeat the next wave of Demonkin and Demon Supervisors.

With the five Great Lord tanks, Shi Feng’s Flame Domain and various AOE Skills, and Zero Wing’s members attacking with the Miniature Ballistas, the team steadily and swiftly eliminated one wave of Demonic Creatures after another.

Although the battles were monotonous and boring, these players brimmed with excitement throughout the grind.

With each wave of Demonkin and Demon Supervisors they killed, they earned between 10 and 20 pieces of Mana Ore and 3 to 5 pieces of Eternium Ore. The team had also become more efficient as they worked; it had initially taken them 20-plus minutes to annihilate each wave, and now, they cleared the monsters in a little over 10 minutes. With the abundant EXP, the team's leveling speed was also astonishingly fast.

After grinding for a little over a day, Shi Feng and his players finally reached the town's inner area.

At this point, these players had leveled significantly. Now, even the lowest-level player was Level 45, whereas the highest-level player was Level 47. They had nearly caught up with Zero Wing's elite members.

Meanwhile, to improve their efficiency, Shi Feng had invested the EXP he had acquired into the Aura of Fire's Flame Domain.

Now, the Skill dealt 2,400% base damage every second for eight seconds, rather than the previous 1,800% every second for seven seconds. The damage per second upscale had also risen from 20% to 25%, and the Skill now covered a 100-yard radius. The Skill could basically rival super-large-scale destruction Spells. Unfortunately, its Cooldown was still five minutes.

Meanwhile, after more than a day of grinding, Shi Feng had acquired a total of 4,526 pieces of Mana Ore and 913 pieces of Eternium Ore. The monsters had actually dropped more Mana Ore than what Zero Wing had in its Warehouse by a considerable margin.

While Shi Feng massacred Demonkin and Demon Supervisors, Aqua Rose and Gentle Snow had kept him updated with several situation reports.

Their reports mainly focused on the Primordial Divine Ruin in the Orc Empire.

The various large Guilds had fought tooth and nail over the ruin after its sudden appearance. They all wanted the Level 50 top-tier weapons and equipment as well as the rumored Advanced Combat Techniques to prepare for the Level 50 super-large-scale Team Dungeons.

Currently, two super-first-rate Guilds and two Super Guilds were involved in the struggle. Even a transcendental power like the Secret Pavilion, which rarely took part in such struggles, had joined the fray. Naturally, plenty of first-rate Guilds joined the fight, as well.

The situation at the ruin was utter chaos.

Meanwhile, only 10,000 players were allowed into the Primordial Divine Ruin each day, but over a million players had gathered in the area, with the weakest on par with the Guild elite members.

The war over the Primordial Divine Ruin was the most intense in God's Domain thus far. Over 30,000 expert players had already died, not to mention the elite players.

When the ruin had last activated, the five superpowers had claimed 70% of the available slots. Surprisingly, Heaven's Burial had secured one-third of the remaining 30%. The various first-rate Guilds had shared the remaining 20%, and none of the second- and third-rate Guilds had claimed a single slot...

"Guild Leader, although Heaven's Burial has suffered significant casualties while it explored the Primordial Divine Ruin, they've also obtained plenty of Level 50 Fine-Gold and Dark-Gold Weapons and Equipment. Their top-tier experts' combat power has improved massively. I've also heard that they've obtained two Basic Combat Techniques and plenty of Magic Array Scrolls, designs, and recipes.

“Although our Guild has suffered about the same losses as Heaven’s Burial in the field battles, I’m afraid that we’ll be in danger soon if Heaven’s Burial continues to grow stronger. Why don’t we send some of our members to explore the ruin as well?”

Aqua Rose was sorely tempted to loot the Primordial Divine Ruin. Although the Conqueror Parties slaughtered Heaven’s Burial’s members, Heaven’s Burial and Blackwater weren’t simple enemies. To counter the Conqueror Parties[1], the two Guilds had employed many Refinement Realm experts, sending them out to ambush Zero Wing’s members in the four high-resource maps. They had even sent some of these Refinement Realm experts to ambush the Conqueror Parties.

Meanwhile, both Guilds had suffered tremendous losses. If Zero Wing hadn’t partnered with several first-rate Guilds and raked in a massive profit with Zero Wing City’s teleportation function, the Guild would have crumbled long ago.

“How is the equipment collection coming along?” Shi Feng asked.

“We’ve only collected a small fraction of the required amount thus far. I’m afraid that it’ll take some time before we have 700 full sets of Level 50 weapons and equipment,” Aqua Rose said, sighing powerlessly. The Guild’s consumption of weapons and equipment was severely high right now. Trying to set aside Level 50 elite weapons and equipment for 700 players under such circumstances was incredibly difficult. She had even involved Gentle Snow’s main force in the task.

“Disregard the Primordial Divine Ruin for now and focus on collecting weapons and equipment. Once we have the items ready, we’ll have an easier time dealing with the Guild’s issues,” Shi Feng instructed.

“I’ll think of a way to gather as much as possible.” Aqua Rose could only nod in frustration.

She had to admit that Zero Wing's foundations were significantly weaker than Heaven's Burial. The difference between the Guilds' expert count and capital was like heaven and earth. Even the Conqueror Parties only helped reduce the massive gap slightly. An additional 700 experts would definitely help ease the pressure on the Guild.

After Aqua Rose disconnected the call, Shi Feng led his team deeper into the town's inner area.

The inner area had far fewer monsters than the town's outer area, although the weakest here were Level 70 Lord ranked Demonkin Warriors. The Chieftain ranked Demonkin were nowhere to be seen. In addition, there were plenty of Level 72 Great Lord ranked Demon Supervisors and Level 74 Grand Lord ranked Demon Overseers roaming about. Even with five Great Lords under his command, Shi Feng did not move casually. He needed a strategic position before he took action.

"Guild Leader, I...discovered a tower behind a magic barrier," one of the Assassins sent to scout the town reported. Stuttering, the Assassin continued, "I also spotted a...large treasure chest made entirely of M-Magic Crystals!"

Chapter 1623 – Town's Ability

"A treasure chest made of Magic Crystals?"

A light flashed in everyone's eyes when they heard the Assassin's report.

In God's Domain, treasure chests were reward opportunities that players frequently encountered. One could gain even higher-quality loot from a treasure chest, depending on its rank, than from powerful monsters.

Normally, treasure chests were either made of wood or metal. This was even the case for Dark-Gold Treasure Chests. Making a treasure chest with Magic Crystals was just extravagant. Needless to say, the treasure chest definitely wasn't low-rank.

A Bronze Treasure Chest's loot could already rival a Chieftain ranked monster's drops of the same level, not to mention Mysterious-Iron, Secret-Silver, Fine-Gold and Dark-Gold Treasure Chests.

Moreover, as players explored higher-level maps, each map would contain fewer treasure chests. Even Bronze Treasure Chests were exceedingly rare in maps above Level 50.

The treasure chests' loot was part of the reason for this. Rather than containing loot on par with the drops from a Chieftain ranked monster of the same level, a Bronze Treasure Chest would contain items on par with a Lord ranked monster of the same level in Level 50-plus maps.

"Magic Crystals?" Shock gripped Shi Feng's heart when he heard the Assassin's report. Immediately, he demanded, "What color are the runes on the chest?"

God's Domain had many different kinds of treasure chests, and although the most common were made of wood or metal, not all items in the game could be stored in wood or metal treasure chests. Certain special items needed to be stored in high Mana density environments. For these items, the system used chests made from Magic Crystals. Such treasure chests were insanely rare in God's Domain, and naturally, they were far more valuable than ordinary chests.

All of the items in such chests were unique in God's Domain; there were no duplicates of these items.

These Magic Crystal Treasure Chests also had a different ranking system than ordinary treasure chests. Their ranks were based on the color of the runes engraved on the crystal.

The runes came in Silver, Gold, and Purple. Silver was at the bottom of the list, while purple runes offered the best items.

“Gold!” the Assassin answered after taking a closer look.

“Gold?” Shi Feng was instantly ecstatic. “Alright, we’ll head over right away.”

In God’s Domain, a Silver Magic Crystal Treasure Chest was the equivalent of a Fine-Gold or Dark-Gold Treasure Chest, a Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest was on par with an Epic Treasure Chest, and a Purple Magic Crystal Treasure Chest was the equivalent of an Inferior Legendary Treasure Chest or higher.

Shi Feng had only ever seen Silver Magic Crystal Treasure Chests in the past, never Gold, but he had heard rumors that Chaos Star, one of God’s Domain’s Twelve Sacred Elementalists, had opened a Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. This was also precisely the reason that he had secured his position as one of the Twelve Sacred Elementalists. Moreover, unlike the other eleven, who had been replaced from time to time, Chaos Star had held his position.

Unfortunately, nobody knew what he had obtained from the Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest.

...

Shi Feng and the rest of his team quickly arrived before the white tower.

The tower was only five stories tall, and a pitch-black pearl that radiated a frightening aura occupied the tip of the tower. When this aura washed over the team, they felt as if some monster was watching them. Even the Mana around the pitch-black pearl seemed frozen. There was no flow of Mana around the pearl whatsoever.

Numerous divine runes had been carved along the tower's walls, and they created a light-blue defensive barrier around the tower, which seemed impenetrable. However, unlike most people, Shi Feng knew that the barrier wasn't an ordinary defensive magic array.

The magic array carved into the tower's walls had survived since ancient times. Current magic arrays simply couldn't compare. Moreover, based on the array's complexity, Shi Feng guessed that it was beyond a Master Magic Array. Not even a Tier 4 existence would be able to scratch the barrier, forced to stand aside as they gazed at it.

Interestingly, no monsters were anywhere near the tower. The roaming Demon Supervisors and Demonkin Warriors only stared at it for a moment before moving on. None of the Demonic Creatures dared to come within 100 yards of the white tower.

Meanwhile, placed on the tower's open-air top floor sat a Magic Crystal Treasure Chest, and as the Assassin had reported, the treasure chest was covered in golden runes. The treasure chest also radiated so much Mana that it created a white mist around it. Seeing this phenomenon, even a fool would realize that the chest was far from ordinary. All of the players on Shi Feng's team drooled as they stared at the treasure chest.

"Everyone, get ready. We'll eliminate the surrounding monsters first," Shi Feng immediately commanded.

Although he did not know why none of the monsters would approach the tower, there were still over 500 of them in the area. If they did not clear out the monsters, they'd never approach the tower without detection.

Following which, Shi Feng controlled his five Great Lords and began to lure the Demon Supervisors and Demonkin Warriors, killing the Demonic Creatures with practiced organization.

With the help of Demon Ruler, Shi Feng's Great Lords could tank around 20 Demon Supervisors and Demonkin Warriors simultaneously. After gathering the enemy Demonic Creatures, Shi Feng used Flame Domain, and towering flames devoured the monsters, dealing several hundred thousand damage each second. At this point, Flame Domain was far stronger than Tier 2 Spells. In fact, it almost surpassed Tier 3 large-scale destruction Spells.

By the time Flame Domain ended, the Demon Supervisors and Demonkin Warriors had lost nearly 4,000,000 HP each. Immediately following, a volley of Exploding Arrows slammed into the Demonic Creatures, each arrow dealing around -300,000 damage.

The Demon Supervisors and Demonkin Warriors very quickly became EXP for Shi Feng's team.

By the time the group defeated the 500 or so Demonic Creatures around the tower, some of the Level 45 players had risen to Level 46. However, the Level 47 players still needed some time before they reached Level 48. As for the loot, the team gained far more than the drops in the town's outer area. More than a hundred Level 60-plus weapons and equipment had dropped, and among them, over 30 were Mysterious-Iron rank.

In addition, plenty of Mana Ore had dropped. Killing the 500-plus monsters had netted Shi Feng nearly 1,000 pieces of Mana Ore, increasing the total count past 5,000.

With this, we should have more than enough Mana Ore to construct the Mana Tower. Shi Feng could not help but smile in satisfaction as he gazed at the Mana Ore in his bag.

The trip to the Boneless Land had definitely been worthwhile.

The Mana Tower was one of the most important support buildings a Guild City could have. It was the defining point between a Guild City and a Guild Town. Normally, Guilds constructed their Mana Tower the moment they acquired a city, but due to the sudden demand for Mana Ore, Zero Wing City hadn't had enough to construct its Mana Tower until now. It hadn't been able to become a true Guild City.

Now that he had enough Mana Ore, he could start constructing Zero Wing City's Mana Tower once he returned.

After dealing with the surrounding monsters, Zero Wing's members approached the tower.

However, the instant they set foot within 100 yards of the tower, the black pearl at its tip began to glow with energy. It then fired countless beams of black light at the approaching crowd. Caught off guard, the beams struck Zero Wing's members. Not only were they thrown out of the 100-yard perimeter, but they had also lost 20% of their HPs...

Although some experts, like You Ziping, had reacted quickly and defended themselves with their weapons, the impact still forced them to retreat by three steps. On the bright side, they hadn't received any damage.

After the first wave of black beams, only 100 or so players remained within 100 yards of the tower. The rest of the team had been thrown back. An instant later, the pitch-black pearl launched another wave of beam attacks. This time, the more beams targeted each player. During the first wave, each player only had to deal with three beams, but now, they had to face four. Furthermore, each player had to deal with an additional beam each time the black pearl attacked.

The longer the crowd remained inside the 100-yard range, the fiercer the attacks became. When the black pearl launched more than ten beams at each player, even the experts of You Ziping's standards were thrown out of range...

It's no wonder why the monsters avoided the tower. This defensive feature is really amazing. Realization dawned on Shi Feng as he watched his teammates fly backward. At the same time, he was overwhelmed by ecstasy.

Every Lost Town had its own unique ability in God's Domain.

Clearly, this defensive feature was this Lost Town's ability. Although Shi Feng had only watched the defensive feature for a few moments, he had grasped the feature's true purpose. In reality, the defensive feature wasn't meant to truly meant to keep enemies away. Rather, it was a training device to help players improve their combat standards. This was an extremely rare ability, even among God's Domain's various Lost Towns.

Chapter 1624 – Gap

Despite multiple attempts to approach the tower, none of Zero Wing and White Tiger Dojo's members got within 70 yards before they were thrown out of the 100-yard range.

“What a powerful trap!”

“Crap! The system is definitely doing this on purpose! It put that treasure chest on display up there just to taunt us!”

“This is ridiculous! It’s impossible to take on more than ten of those black beams at once with the Silencing effect within the tower’s 100-yard range! Those beams are so fast, too!”

Everyone looked at the pitch-black pearl on the tip of the tower with resentment. They felt that the system was toying with them.

Among their nearly 700 players, You Ziping had the best performance. However, even You Ziping had only reached the 72-yard mark before being blasted out by over a dozen black beams.

You Ziping’s combat standards easily ranked among the top players in their group, yet not even he could reach the tower.

When they thought about how they might have to leave the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest on the tower’s top floor, anger and frustration tore at their hearts.

These kids really take things for granted. Shi Feng, who had remained motionless, shook his head and laughed when he overheard his team members grumbling. Following which, he started to make his way towards the tower.

As Shi Feng approached the tower, everyone turned their gazes towards him.

“Guild Leader Black Flame is going to try to reach the tower, too?”

“With his level of skill, I wonder how far he’ll get?”

“This trap is too difficult. Although Guild Leader Black Flame is superbly strong, I doubt that he’ll get past the 50-yard mark.”

“I’m not so sure about that. We already had to face over a dozen beams before we even reached the 70-yard mark. At the 50-plus range, I bet that the tower will fire over 30 beams. Even if Guild Leader Black Flame has frightening Attributes, dealing with so many attacks should be impossible. I don’t think he’ll even get past the 60-yard mark.”

...

As the White Tiger Dojo crowd watched Shi Feng approach the tower, they started a quiet discussion amongst themselves. They were curious to see the capabilities of Star-Moon Kingdom’s mythical expert.

Truthfully, they had been displeased when the White Tiger Dojo had sent them to train with Zero Wing.

They were bona fide fighting experts in the real world, yet they were training under a virtual expert. This was a joke.

However, after spending some time in God’s Domain, they had discovered that this virtual reality game was far from ordinary. Many techniques that were impossible to perform in the real world could be easily accomplished in God’s Domain.

This superhuman combat method was truly addictive.

After training with Zero Wing and fighting other players in Zero Wing's Battle Arena, they came to realize how massive the gap between their abilities and veteran players' was. Although they hadn't been a match for God's Domain's veteran players initially, however, they had grown strong enough to stand against expert players in Stone Forest Town's Battle Arena. They now acutely understood God's Domain's combat method.

Hence, they realized just how powerful Shi Feng was. After all, they had watched plenty of experts' battle videos before, including recordings of Shi Feng's past battles.

In those battles, Shi Feng could definitely be described as a 'monster.' After watching Shi Feng's battles, they had begun to admire the man.

However, the tower's defensive feature tested one's combat standard; Basic Attributes had very little to do with it. It didn't matter if Shi Feng's Attributes were significantly higher than theirs, and although his combat standards were awesome, he should still have his limits.

"The Guild Leader is making a move personally?!"

"Nice! We're in for a treat now!"

In contrast to the White Tiger Dojo disciples' skepticism, Zero Wing's members were clearly excited. They paid close attention to Shi Feng's every move, hoping to get a glimpse of his true strength. Normally, they didn't get to see this, and in the previous battles, Shi Feng had mostly relied on his five Great Lords. They barely caught a glimpse of Shi Feng's true capabilities.

Experts like You Ziping watched Shi Feng curiously, as well. They were all eager to learn how much of a gap existed between them and their Guild Leader.

Shi Feng quickly arrived at the 100-yard mark, but unexpectedly, he didn't sprint towards the towers as the previous players had. Instead, he continued leisurely even once he was within the black pearl's attack range.

"What is the Guild Leader trying to do?"

"Could he be testing the waters?"

Shi Feng's actions confused his team members. They had already gotten a clear grasp of the black pearl's attack method during their previous attempts. Not only did the strength of black pearl's attacks increase as they moved closer to the tower, but it also launched attacks more frequently.

If someone wanted a better chance of reaching the tower, they needed to move quickly. They also needed to block the orb's attacks.

Yet, Shi Feng was...

Before anyone could react, the black pearl began to attack Shi Feng.

Suddenly, two beams of light shot towards Shi Feng's vital points.

Just when the two beams were about to hit, Shi Feng stopped abruptly and turned slightly. He didn't bother to unsheathe either the Abyssal Blade or Killing Ray.

Xiu! Xiu!

Everyone watched, disappointed, as the two beams pierced their Guild Leader.

However, the attacks didn't throw Shi Feng out of the 100-yard area, and he began to pace towards the tower once more.

"What's going on? Did he dodge them?" The players' expression twisted with confusion.

Following which, the black pearl launched another wave of attacks. This time, it fired three beams. As Shi Feng moved closer to the tower, the beams reached Shi Feng much sooner than the last attacks had, giving their target less time to react.

The team members watched Shi Feng with wide-eyed anticipation. What was the man going to do this time?

However....

To their disappointment, Shi Feng reacted the same way as before, stopping and shifting to the side. Like the prior attacks, the beams passed through his body harmlessly, striking the ground behind him.

Shi Feng continuously moved closer towards the tower like so.

95 yards... 90 yards... 80 yards....

The beams, which had beaten everyone senseless, were practically nonexistent to Shi Feng. They pierced through him harmlessly, again and again, blasting small craters into the ground behind him.

Shi Feng quickly reached the 72-yard mark, You Ziping's record distance. However, he hadn't even used his weapons to defend himself once since he began his approach. In fact, he hadn't even touched his weapons.

"Is the black pearl broken?"

"Has the system made some mistake?"

The White Tiger Dojo disciples gaped in shock as they watched Shi Feng steadily move closer towards the tower as if he were strolling across his backyard. In their opinion, Shi Feng hadn't done anything whatsoever all this time. The only explanation they could think of was that the system had made an error.

They had never thought that Shi Feng would be so lucky.

Seeing this, some curious White Tiger Dojo disciples decided to attempt the test again.

However, when they allowed the black beams to strike, they were instantly thrown backward.

"Impossible! How is the Guild Leader doing it?!"

“Why aren’t the black pearl’s attacks hitting him?”

The White Tiger Dojo spectators’ eyes fall from their sockets as they watched as their companions were blasted past the 100-yard mark.

“So, this is the difference between the Guild Leader and me?” You Ziping revealed a bitter smile as he watched Shi Feng move past the 50-yard mark.

Although he had been aware of the huge gap between him and Zero Wing’s peak experts, he hadn’t realized that the gap between them was so fast, let alone the difference between his abilities and that of Zero Wing’s mythical expert.

In less than a minute, Shi Feng had reached the base of the tower, at which point the tower’s defensive magic array deactivated.

Chapter 1625 – Jackpot

As the white tower’s defensive magic array transformed into particles of light and vanished, time seemed to have frozen around the tower. Both Zero Wing’s members and the White Tiger Dojo’s disciples stared with blank faces.

“He passed it...”

“Am I dreaming? He didn’t even use his weapons!”

“Yes! That must be it! We must be dreaming! How could such a thing even be possible? No player could dodge that many attacks!”

“Could Guild Leader Black Flame actually be an NPC in disguise?”

...

For a time, the players shared their guesses about Shi Feng. They simply couldn’t wrap their minds around what had just happened.

They hadn’t even made it to the 70-yard mark before they had been sent flying back to the starting point, yet Shi Feng had walked through the area as if strolling through his backyard. Even when he had neared the 50-yard mark and faced over 30 beams, he slowly and steadily continued forward. Regardless of how fast the pitch-black pearl’s attack rate had become, Shi Feng’s speed was unaffected.

When Shi Feng crossed the 50-yard mark, the beams had changed their attack trajectories in the middle of the attacks. After reaching the 30-yard mark, they had even begun to curve to attack Shi Feng from the sides and rear.

Zero Wing and White Tiger Dojo’s members had watched the attacks in anguish.

Not only did players have to worry about the black pearl changing its attack trajectories, but they also had to worry about attacks from their sides and behind them. Moreover, every attack struck simultaneously. Blocking the attacks from a single direction was already impossible, not to mention dodging or blocking every one of them.

The creepier thing was that the pitch-black pearl seemed to fear Shi Feng. While Shi Feng had made his way towards the tower, every one of the pearl's beam attacks had avoided him...

This was already far beyond everything they knew of God's Domain.

When the White Tiger Dojo disciples watched Shi Feng, a chill crawled down their spines. Aside from their reverence, they were afraid and excited to learn more about a real they had never discovered before.

Although not everyone was willing to acknowledge that Shi Feng had cleared the test, there was no doubt that the white tower's defensive magic array had disappeared.

There was also no doubt that what has just occurred wasn't a dream, but reality.

"Zero Wing's Guild Leader is actually so powerful?"

"Is he even human?"

All of the White Tiger Dojo disciples were fighting experts, and although they hadn't seen exactly what Shi Feng had done, they knew that the vast difference between them wasn't as simple as Basic Attributes. Shi Feng was leaps and bounds ahead of them in combat standards, as well.

When they thought about Shi Feng's power, they envied Zero Wing's internal members.

Unlike Zero Wing's members, they were only here because the White Tiger Dojo had commissioned Zero Wing to train them. Once they were powerful enough, Zero Wing would stop their training. On the other hand, Zero Wing, and by extension, Shi Feng, would train Zero Wing's internal members to their full potential.

Shi Feng simply chuckled at his players' hushed discussions as he stood at the foot of the white tower. He then pushed open the tightly sealed doors, curious about what lay beyond.

After experiencing the black pearl's attacks personally, Shi Feng had become even more certain that the device had been passed down since ancient times. He was also sure that it was meant to train players' combat standards.

Players had to have reached the Half-step Refinement Realm and be able to observe their surroundings constantly to pass the 50-yard mark.

To cross the 30-yard mark, players had to reach the Refinement Realm. Without precise control of their own movements, players wouldn't be able to dodge or block the varying attacks at the same time.

Aside from physical control, players had to have accurate judgment of movement within their environment to continue past the 30-yard mark.

The players who could reach the foot of the tower had reached the limit of the Refinement realm. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call them Half-step Flowing Water Realm experts.

For the White Tiger Dojo disciples and Zero Wing internal members, who had yet to reach the Half-step Refinement Realm, reaching the tower was simply too difficult. Even Gentle Snow, Fire Dance, and Zero Wing's other Refinement Realm experts would likely struggle to reach the tower.

Shi Feng had to admit that the tower was an excellent tool to help players reach the Refinement Realm. The black pearl didn't use the same attack method as monsters, which wouldn't constantly target players weak points. Not even a group of Refinement Realm experts could elicit a similar result.

The only downside was that the black pearl's attacks were monotonous and couldn't adapt to change. Even when the beams adjusted their trajectories or curved, they had fixed patterns, unlike expert players, which changed their attack patterns to fit their situation. It was also why Shi Feng had managed to reach the bottom of the tower without using his weapons.

However, Shi Feng was satisfied with this result. After all, he had never heard of such a training device in God's Domain before.

If he could use this device, nurturing a batch of experts would be easy. Although, whether or not these experts reached the Refinement Realm would depend on their individual talent. At most, the training device could offer support, reducing the twists and turns players had to face as they journeyed towards the Refinement Realm. It didn't guarantee that players would reach a certain standard.

Of course, if the various superpowers learned of this training device, Shi Feng didn't doubt that they would do everything they could to acquire this Lost Town.

Although the various super-first-rate Guilds and Super Guilds had their own training systems and devices, with most having higher-quality methods than the white tower, those systems and devices cost massive amounts of resources to maintain. They could also only nurture a small number of players at once. In contrast, the white tower could bombard nearly 700 players simultaneously and without strain.

This alone would be more than enough to tempt the various superpowers into action.

Shi Feng didn't bother to explain how he had reached the tower. It was still too soon for Zero Wing current internal members and White Tiger Dojo disciples to take on this training device; they still hadn't grasped many of the basics. Trying to take on so many clever attacks simultaneously was impossible for them. The system would simply beat them, not train them.

Meanwhile, as Shi Feng entered the tower...

A spacious, ancient hall appeared before him.

From outside, the white tower didn't look particularly large. However, its interior resembled that of a stadium that could accommodate over 10,000 people. Various ancient weapons had been put on display in the hall, and it resembled an armory. Shi Feng was in awe as he gazed at the weapons around him. Every single weapon in this hall radiated a dense amount of Mana. At a glance, it was obvious that these weapons were far superior to the ordinary weapons most players used at this stage of the game.

This is an armory? Shi Feng was confused as he gazed at the weapons on display. He then approached one of the weapon racks, picking up a spear to inspect.

When he read the spear's Attribute Panel, Shi Feng was instantly ecstatic. He was so excited that goosebumps began to cover his skin.

Mana Weapons! Is every weapon here a Mana Weapon?! Shi Feng surveyed his surroundings in shock.

There were easily over ten thousand weapons in the hall...

God's Domain had many different kinds of weapons and equipment, most of which fell into three main categories.

The first was the common-type. It referred to the weapons and equipment most players currently used. Players of the same class could trade and use weapons and equipment of this type. In battle, their durability would decrease, but they could be repaired out of combat.

The second type was the unique-type. Specific players could use these weapons and equipment. Even if another player picked one up, the item would be useless to them. Similar to the common-type, these weapons and pieces of equipment would lose durability in combat but could be repaired and used indefinitely.

The third type was the expendable-type. Like the common-type, those of the same class could trade and use expendable-type weapons. While they wouldn't lose durability in battle, they couldn't be repaired. Once their durability was exhausted, they would be useless.

The majority of God's Domain's players and NPCs used common-type weapons and equipment. Most expendable-type weapons and pieces of equipment had been lost in the passing of time. This was due to the uncertainties these items created in battle.

However, expendable-type weapons and equipment had one massive benefit.

Absolute power!

When the various races had competed for dominance over the God's Domain continent during ancient times, the human race had been weak and insignificant. To survive their powerful enemies, humans had discovered a method to improve their strength drastically. This was how expendable-type weapons and equipment had come to be.

Chapter 1626 – Mana Weapon

Expendable-type weapons and equipment didn't function like their common-type counterparts.

Common-type weapons and equipment were designed with both power and stability in mind. Hence, they'd only exert a certain extent of the power of the materials used to create them, nothing more. Meanwhile, expendable-type weapons and equipment were only designed with power in mind. These weapons and equipment functioned at the expense of the production materials, which meant that they couldn't be repaired.

However, this was also why they were extraordinarily powerful, allowing their users to challenge foes of a higher tier.

Mana Weapons were the typical representation of expendable-type weapons and equipment.

As Shi Feng gazed that the Mana Weapons in the hall, he was at a loss for words.

Expendable-type weapons and equipment's production had ceased long ago in God's Domain, and any discovered items had survived since ancient times. Normally, players had no hope of encountering such weapons and equipment.

When a Mana Weapon or piece of Equipment had surfaced in the past, players had fought fiercely over the item.

After all, high-tiered Mana Weapons could grant players the power to defeat opponents of a higher tier. No player in God's Domain could resist the temptation.

Yet, over 10,000 Mana Weapons were on display before him. Why wouldn't Shi Feng be astonished?

As expected of a Lost Town, it's no wonder why the various superpowers fought over them so desperately. Shi Feng sighed ruefully as he felt the flowing Mana within the spear he held.

In the past, Shi Feng had assumed that the various superpowers only vied for the Lost Towns' abilities. However, it seemed that that had only been a part of the reason. The riches these Lost Towns contained was likely another major factor.

Unlike ordinary weapons, Mana Weapons did not have a level requirement, only a tier requirement. They were somewhat similar to Magic Scrolls, although Magic Scrolls couldn't compare to the power of a Mana Weapon.

Magic Scrolls were generally single-use items, but Mana Weapons could be used until their durability hit zero. Hence, these weapons' market price had been insanely high in Shi Feng's previous life.

A Tier 1 Mana Weapon had cost at least 150 Gold in the past, far more expensive than Tier 1 Magic Scrolls. Even so, tons of players had fought for the chance to wield one.

After all, only a small fraction of God's Domain's player population had reached the higher tiers; not all players could do so.

Meanwhile, Tier 1 Mana Weapons would even be of significant help to Tier 2 players. One of these weapons could, at the very least, increase a Tier 2 player's combat power by 20%. If a Tier 1 player used a Tier 1 Mana Weapon, their combat power would increase by a minimum of 50%. Although the boost wasn't as impactful as a Berserk Skill, it still allowed elite players to face expert players of the same tier and level.

Many wealthy elite and ordinary expert players had purchased Tier 1 Mana Weapons to use in critical situations.

As for Tier 2 Mana Weapons, they had sold for at least 1,000 Gold each in the past. Tier 2 Mana Weapons would even be useful to Tier 3 players.

Tier 3 Mana Weapons were even more frightening, even providing a significant boost to Tier 4 players. They were no less valuable than Tier 4 Magic Scrolls, and the various superpowers had fought desperately to claim any Tier 3 Mana Weapon that had been found.

Meanwhile, the majority of the weapons in the hall were Tier 1 Mana Weapons. Even so, Shi Feng spotted over 1,000 Tier 2 Mana Weapons, and most importantly, he counted twelve Tier 3 Mana Weapons in crystal cabinets in the hall's center...

If he sold all of these Mana Weapons, he'd earn enough coins to make the various Super Guilds drool.

As Shi Feng prepared to store every Mana Weapon in his bag, the system's familiar voice reached his ears.

...

System: This item is still bound and cannot be stored in your bag.

System: If you wish to remove this item's bound status, you must take control of the Lost Town.

...

Sure enough, the system won't allow players to obtain such an advantage so easily. Shi Feng smiled bitterly at the spear in his hands.

However, after giving the matter some thought, he found it reasonable. If he were allowed to walk away with every Mana Weapon in this hall, he'd make a huge profit even if he failed to secure the Lost Town itself.

It seems that I have no choice but to collect the weapons after I take control of the town.

Shi Feng refocused his attention and made his way towards the tower's top floor. At the same time, he became more interested in capturing this Lost Town.

If he took control of this town, not only would Zero Wing secure another method of nurturing Refinement Realm experts, but they'd also rake in a massive fortune. The Guild would then have all the manpower and wealth it needed. With these factors taken care of, it would be odd if the Guild didn't become a major power.

Soon, Shi Feng reached the tower's second floor.

The second-floor hall was visibly smaller than the first-floor hall, and ten translucent ghosts wandered the area. Some wore plate armor, some wore leather armor, and some wore cloth armor. Every one of these ghosts radiated a horrific aura, and even Shi Feng felt an intense pressure weigh down on him as he bathed in the powerful energy.

...

[Wandering Soul] (Undead, Grand Lord)

Level 80

HP 180,000,000/180,000,000

[Tyrant's Soul] (Undead, Mythic)

Level 80

HP 420,000,000/420,000,000

...

Shi Feng could not help his surprise when he saw all of these powerful monsters, and a frown pulled at his lips.

Had he only had to face one Level 80 Grand Lord, he wouldn't have had much of a problem, but there were a total of nine Level 80 Grand Lords before him. Moreover, the distance between each Grand Lord was practically negligible. If he attracted one of the Wandering Souls, he was guaranteed to pull the other eight Wandering Souls.

However, these nine Wandering Souls weren't his biggest problem.

There was actually a Mythic ranked Tyrant's Soul!

Although Shi Feng recognized his own strength, he'd grossly overestimate himself if he thought that he could defeat a Level 80 Mythic monster. In fact, the Tyrant's Soul could likely one-shot him...

I guess the system doesn't intend to allow anyone on the third floor? Shi Feng felt his head ache as he looked at the Tyrant's Soul, who remained motionless in the center of the hall. The spiral staircase that led to the third floor lay directly behind the Tyrant's Soul.

Shi Feng had assumed that he would be able to walk up to the tower's top floor effortlessly, but it seemed that obtaining the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest would be more difficult than he had thought.

If he had faced such a situation outside of the tower, he could likely rely on Zero Wing and the White Tiger Dojo's members to sneak past the Tyrant's Soul and Wandering Souls.

However, they were still stuck outside of the tower, as were the five Great Lords under his control...

Without his Great Lords and the other players, dodging the Wandering Souls' attacks would be extremely difficult. If the Tyrant's Soul joined the fray, he'd likely die in an instant.

Although he had an Invulnerability Skill, Absolute Domain had a short duration of 10 seconds.

Dashing from the edge of the second-floor hall to the staircase and ascending to the third floor to open the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest in ten seconds was impossible.

Once Absolute Domain's duration ended, the Tyrant's Soul would slap him down.

Yet, if he gave up, he'd never retrieve the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. It was even a Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. He had only heard rumors of such a thing during his previous life.

Shi Feng then calmed himself and moved around the hall while observing the Tyrant's Soul and Wandering Souls, hoping to find some angle he could take advantage of.

But after watching the monsters for over ten minutes, he failed to find any opportunities. While he had been watching, the Tyrant's Soul had stood deathly still in front of the spiral staircase. If he attempted to approach the staircase, the Mythic ranked Boss would likely discover him.

With no external factors to take advantage of, Shi Feng was forced to flip through his bag, hoping that he'd find something useful.

As Shi Feng began to consider giving up, he noticed that he still had a Tier 3 Defensive Magic Scroll. He had obtained the scroll from the Purgatory Serpent.

As his gaze touched upon the scroll, Shi Feng's hopes rekindled.

A Tier 3 Defensive Magic Scroll could even block a Tier 4 existence's attacks for a short time. With the scroll and his Absolute Domain, it wasn't entirely impossible to secure the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. Now, the only problem was the Tyrant's Soul's exact strength. If it were too powerful, it wouldn't need much time to break through the Defensive Magic Scroll's barrier, and Shi Feng's death would be certain.

After considering his options for some time, Shi Feng decided that it was worth a try.

If he died, he'd lose one level at most. One level was a small price to pay for a Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest.

Following which, Shi Feng used Phantom Kill and had his doppelganger carefully cross to the opposite side of the hall. Meanwhile, Shi Feng readied the Tier 3 Defensive Magic Scroll before activating the Aura of Wind's Gale Domain and charging forward.

When Shi Feng was within 100 yards of the Tyrant's Soul and Wandering Souls, a cold glint flashed in the ten monsters' eyes. They charged at Shi Feng like ferocious beasts.

The Tyrant's Soul moved like lightning. Before Shi Feng had even crossed five yards, the Mythic monster had appeared before him. The gossamer Boss had already conjured a blue lightning blade in its right hand and swung it down towards Shi Feng.

So fast!

Shi Feng's complexion darkened when he saw the Tyrant's Soul appear before him suddenly.

Although he had long since known that he was no match for a Level 80 Mythic monster, he had never imagined that the Tyrant's Soul would be so agile. Despite his Dark Iron Bloodline, he could only barely catch a glimpse of the Tyrant's Soul's moving figure.

Meanwhile, the Tyrant's Soul did not give Shi Feng any opportunity to defend himself as it gathered Mana in its right hand and molded it into a blade of lightning. It then swung the blue lightning blade down at Shi Feng.

The lightning blade tore through the air effortlessly, producing not a single sound as it descended on Shi Feng. Or to put it in another way, the lightning blade moved so swiftly that even the sound it generated could not keep up with it.

Shi Feng immediately understood that it was already too late for him to defend himself using his swords. Yet, if he allowed the lightning blade to land on him, he would die without a doubt. At the critical moment, he used Divine Steps, ten doppelgangers of himself splitting out from his body. Then, he promptly switched positions with one of his doppelgangers.

The moment Shi Feng was done switching positions, the doppelganger he had swapped with got split in half by the Tyrant's Soul. The lightning blade also left a thin crack beneath the doppelganger's feet, the crack extending 50 yards. Only a brief moment later did the sound of air being torn apart enter his ears.

For a moment, Shi Feng was even under the illusion that the Tyrant's Soul's attack had split the entire second floor in half.

Right then, when Shi Feng looked at the Tyrant's Soul, which was clad in a set of dark-gold-colored runic armor with a pitch-black crown on its head, he could not help but doubt it was actually a Mythic monster.

Mythic monsters were indeed powerful and possessed superb Basic Attributes. However, in terms of combat standards, most were on par with ordinary experts, who were only capable of reaching the Trial Tower's fifth floor. However, through that single attack, Shi Feng could tell that the Tyrant's Soul was already close to reaching the Refinement Realm standard. It had no excess actions in its movements. Including the absolute speed it possessed, the Tyrant's Soul could slaughter even a party of Tier 3 experts of the same level.

If not for Divine Steps, he would've no doubt been killed instantly just now. Not daring to waste any time, Shi Feng immediately dashed towards the spiral staircase while having his ten doppelgangers distract the Tyrant's Soul.

Although the doppelgangers summoned using Divine Steps[1] were incapable of attacking, they were also invulnerable. No matter how the Tyrant's Soul attacked them, they would remain unaffected. Hence, they definitely had a chance to delay the Tyrant's Soul for a brief moment. After all, regardless of how powerful a monster was, their intellect was still far from comparable to NPCs', much less to players'.

In the blink of an eye, Shi Feng had shaken the Tyrant's Soul off his tail.

However, after he moved forward for just a few steps, the nine Wandering Souls reached him.

Even Shi Feng would be troubled when pitted against nine Level 80 Grand Lords.

Fortunately, unlike the Tyrant's Soul, which remained basically unaffected by Shi Feng's Gale Domain, the Wandering Souls had their Movement Speeds reduced considerably.

In addition, Gale Domain boosted Shi Feng's speed significantly. Purely in terms of Movement Speed, Shi Feng was superior to the Wandering Souls. Hence, he could evade the attack trajectories of the Wandering Souls relatively easily. For safety's sake, though, he still activated Defensive Blade.

Although the combat standards of the nine Wandering Souls were far from comparable to the Tyrant's Soul's, these were still at the Trial Tower's fourth floor. Ordinary experts would still get killed instantly if they went up against the Grand Lords.

Shi Feng was only relying on his advantage in speed and his grasp of his surroundings to just barely dodge the attacks of the Wandering Souls. However, as the Wandering Souls outnumbered him greatly, even he could avoid only a portion of the attacks sent at him; he had to rely on Defensive Blade to block the rest.

Following which, Defensive Blade's block count continuously decreased as Shi Feng neared the spiral staircase.

Ten times... Eight times... Five times...

When Defensive Blade's block count was close to depleted, Shi Feng was still over 20 yards away from the staircase. At this time, the nine Wandering Souls gave up on trying to engage Shi Feng in a melee and switched to Spells to attack him.

Suddenly, dozens of shadow blades formed in midair.

They even know Shadow Sanctions, the fastest Tier 3 Spell available? Shi Feng frowned.

There were weak Spells and strong Spells. Likewise, there were slow Spells and fast Spells.

Shadow Sanctions was the fastest Tier 3 Spell available in the game. Although it packed a weak punch and barely dealt any damage against monsters and players of the same level and tier, when used against a player that was inferior in terms of both levels and tiers, it could easily become a lethal Spell. Not to mention, all nine Wandering Souls were using the same Spell; even a Tier 3 player of the same level would get killed if they were careless.

In the next moment, under the control of the Wandering Souls, the dozens of shadow blades flew towards Shi Feng.

Xiu... Xiu... Xiu...

Just when the shadow blades were about to reach Shi Feng, he switched positions with the doppelganger he summoned using Phantom Kill and appeared on the other side of the spiral staircase.

As for his doppelganger, the numerous shadow blades instantly annihilated it.

Close one! Shi Feng felt extremely fortunate that he had not tried to defend against those shadow blades. The only way he could've blocked all those attacks just now was with Absolute Domain. However, if he wasted Absolute Domain here, even if he managed to reach the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest later, he would be powerless to do anything about it.

After killing his doppelganger, the Wandering Souls charged at Shi Feng's real body once again. However, they were too far away; by the time the Wandering Souls arrived at the spiral staircase, he was already halfway up.

Since Shi Feng's Movement Speed originally surpassed that of the Wandering Souls, despite the Grand Lords giving their all into chasing him, the distance between them only widened. Shortly after, Shi Feng arrived at the top floor of the tower.

Sure enough, it isn't locked! Shi Feng grew ecstatic when he saw the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest placed in the middle of the top floor.

Previously, he couldn't determine whether the treasure chest was locked or not. From what he knew of Magic Crystal Treasure Chests, they were never locked. However, those treasure chests all had silver runes carved on them. Hence, he had not been certain that Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chests wouldn't have locks.

By the time Shi Feng got to the treasure chest, the nine Wandering Souls had just arrived on the top floor. When the Grand Lords noticed Shi Feng's location, they let loose an angry outcry that echoed throughout the entire tower. Even the Zero Wing members and White Tiger Dojo disciples resting over 100 yards away from the tower could not help but shudder at the Grand Lords' powerful roars.

"What's going on?"

"Quick, look! The Guild Leader has already arrived before the treasure chest!"

"Wait, there seem to be monsters."

“What?! Those are nine Level 80 Grand Lords!”

Everyone’s eyes widened when they looked at the Wandering Souls chasing after Shi Feng. Initially, they had felt excited at his obtaining the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. Now, they only felt sympathy for him.

Even if their entire team of nearly 700 players went up against one Wandering Soul, they would not be able to make the Grand Lord break a sweat. Yet, now, nine of these Level 80 Grand Lords had actually appeared at the same time. Who could possibly stop them?

When the Wandering Souls were less than 10 yards away from Shi Feng, his lips suddenly curled up in a smile.

“Activate! Triple Flame Barrier!”

In the next moment, Shi Feng unfurled the Tier 3 Magic Scroll in his hand and completed the activation chant.

Suddenly, emerald flames emerged from the ground around Shi Feng and formed a pyramid that enveloped him completely.

When the nine Wandering Souls bombarded Shi Feng with Spells, their Spells were all burnt into oblivion by the emerald flames. When the weapons the Wandering Souls wielded clashed against the flame pyramid, they immediately melted under the high temperatures of the flames. The might of the Triple Flame Barrier exceeded Shi Feng’s expectations entirely.

Following which, Shi Feng started opening the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. The Triple Flame Barrier lasted 30 seconds. Normally, that should be just enough time to activate a treasure chest.

When Shi Feng clicked on the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest, the loading bar that appeared before him showed that it would take 30 seconds to open the treasure chest. Upon seeing this, he breathed out a sigh of relief.

However, three seconds into the activation process, a flash of lightning appeared at the spiral staircase.

When the lightning disappeared, the figure of the Tyrant's Soul appeared.

At this moment, the Tyrant's Soul's eyes were releasing scorching flames, its entire body wreathed in golden arcs of electricity. As soon as the Tyrant's Soul appeared, it immediately began chanting an incantation while writing divine runes in the air.

In the next moment, a magic array with a 100-yard radius formed in the sky above the Tyrant's Soul. Several plasma balls the size of hills started coalescing below the magic array. Under the Mythic monster's guidance, the plasma balls then rained down on Shi Feng one after another.

Chapter 1628 – Tyrant

What with the appearance of the massive magic array and the hill-sized plasma balls that blotted out the sky above the tower, it felt as if Armageddon had descended. Loud crackling sounds echoed throughout the space around the white tower.

The frightening pressure from the massive magic array made the hearts of the players standing below the tower palpitate, their breathing becoming somewhat stifled.

When the crowd below the tower saw the Tyrant's Soul, which hovered in midair, their mouths gaped in shock.

"A Mythic!"

"That's a Mythic monster!"

"We're doomed... Why is there such a powerful monster here?!"

Whether it was Zero Wing's internal members or the White Tiger Dojo's disciples, they rarely ever raided Dungeons, much less fought against incomparably powerful Bosses. The strongest monster they'd fought against thus far was the Purgatory Serpent.

Meanwhile, just the Purgatory Serpent alone had already made them despair; their reaction to the Mythic monster before them went without saying.

Looking at the Tyrant's Soul, although everyone knew that the Mythic monster's target wasn't them, their minds still could not help but conceive the thought of turning around and fleeing.

Meanwhile, when Shi Feng looked at the descending plasma balls, his complexion darkened significantly.

Although he had long since known that his doppelgangers could only delay the Tyrant's Soul for a short time, he had not expected the Mythic monster to be ruthless enough to use Thunder Plasma, a Tier 4 Spell, as soon as it appeared.

Tier 4 Spells originally already possessed frightening destructive power, but Thunder Plasma was even one of the top-ranking Tier 4 Spells available in the game. The Spell's power was very close to rivaling that of a Tier 4 Curse. Even Tier 4 monsters would be heavily injured if struck by this Spell.

At this moment, however, it was already too late for Shi Feng to do anything about the situation.

While activating a treasure chest, players were not allowed to move away. As long as they shifted their position, they would have to redo the activation process. Not to mention, now that the plasma balls were already descending on him, he wouldn't be able to escape getting struck unless he moved out of the Spell's 100-yard-radius AOE.

In the next moment, numerous plasma balls bombarded the Triple Flame Barrier one after another.

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

Each time a plasma ball landed on the Triple Flame Barrier, the emerald flame pyramid trembled violently. With each subsequent blast, the emerald flames also weakened.

The sound of each impact echoed throughout the Lost Town; the intense shockwaves created were palpable even for the crowd standing over 100 yards away from the tower.

Thunder Plasma lasted for a total of six seconds. By the time the Spell ended, cracks had appeared in the formerly sturdy Triple Flame Barrier. The emerald flames had also dimmed considerably.

Upon seeing that the Triple Flame Barrier was still standing, Shi Feng could not help but breathe out a sigh of relief.

As expected of a Spell known for having power approaching that of Tier 4 Curses, its might really is frightening.

After taking a glance at the Triple Flame Barrier's remaining duration, Shi Feng could not help but smile bitterly. The barrier originally should've been able to last 30 seconds. Only a few seconds had passed since he activated it, yet after the bombardment from Thunder Plasma, the system actually notified him that the Triple Flame Barrier's remaining duration was just 12 seconds. Despite the Triple Flame Barrier's duration remaining completely unaffected even when receiving the assault of the Wandering Souls, a single attack from the Tyrant's Soul had depleted the barrier's energy so significantly.

If the Tyrant's Soul executed another attack of similar power, the Triple Flame Barrier would definitely break. Fortunately, Thunder Plasma was a Spell with a very long Cooldown. Even if the Tyrant's Soul was a Mythic monster, it wouldn't be able to use Thunder Plasma again any time soon.

However, even while Shi Feng was having such thoughts, the Tyrant's Soul began chanting an incantation and writing divine runes once again.

Compared to when it was casting Thunder Plasma, the Tyrant's Soul spent much more time casting this Spell; it invested a total of six seconds into it. After the Mythic monster was done chanting, a new magic array appeared in the space above the tower.

Although this magic array's AOE was not as large as Thunder Plasma's magic array, it was a bona fide twofold magic array: a silver magic array and a pitch-black magic array. As the two magic arrays

intermingled, they sucked the Lost Town dry of its ambient Mana. For a moment, everyone inside the town felt their perception and vision blur.

Is there a need to be so desperate? Shi Feng was at a loss for words when he saw the twofold magic array in the sky.

Tier 4 Curse, Thunder God's Annihilation!

Although the Curse's AOE was much smaller, in terms of power, it was much stronger than even ordinary Tier 5 Spells.

Even Tier 5 creatures would dread this Curse. They would definitely sustain severe injuries if struck by it.

In the next moment, the two magic arrays transformed into a ball of black-and-white light. Arcs of electricity also wreathed the ball of light. As the ball of light descended, it was as if the space surrounding it froze.

At this moment, the Tyrant's Soul also abruptly revealed a human-like sneer as it looked at Shi Feng as if it was saying, "what else can you do?"

At this moment, even if Shi Feng was a fool, he could tell that the Triple Flame Barrier wouldn't be able to endure this apocalyptic attack. Gritting his teeth, he immediately took out a crimson Elemental Source and set it in the heart of the Triple Flame Barrier's magic array.

Elemental Sources had many uses, with their main purpose being the creation of Elemental Weapons. However, Shi Feng could not care less right now. If he wanted to have any chance to acquire the Magic

Crystal Treasure Chest, his only choice was to use the fire-type Elemental Source. If he failed today, obtaining the treasure chest would definitely become much harder in the future.

In God's Domain, monsters, particularly high-tiered monsters, all possessed a certain degree of intellect. If he failed to obtain the treasure chest today, the Tyrant's Soul would definitely guard the treasure chest much more strictly on his next visit.

After going through so many difficulties to get to this point, Shi Feng had no intention of giving up just like that.

As the refined energy of the Elemental Source flowed into the Triple Flame Barrier, the previously dim, emerald flames flared up. Moreover, the color of the flames even transformed from emerald to white-hot. Now, the flame pyramid looked more like a dazzling sun brightly illuminating the entire Lost Town.

When the ball of black-and-white light crashed into the Triple Flame Barrier, the resulting impact shook the entire white tower. Even the players standing 100 yards away from the tower were sent flying over 10 yards; their bodies fell to the ground one after another. Shocked expressions filled everyone's faces as they stared at the clash of lightning and flames above the tower.

The White Tiger Dojo disciples, in particular, suddenly felt as if they were living in an entirely different world from Shi Feng. At the same time, they also came to have a new understanding of the battles in God's Domain.

Before, they thought that it was already plenty amazing that players could conduct superhuman battles in the game. However, the battle they were witnessing now could no longer be considered to be a player's battle. Instead, it was more like a battle between two apocalyptic beasts. A simple exchange between these beasts could easily deform the surrounding terrain.

As the seconds passed by, the dazzling Triple Flame Barrier began fading. The Lost Town returned to its dimly illuminated state. Fortunately, the ball of black-and-white light also started decreasing in size.

After nearly 10 seconds had gone by, the ball of light disappeared. Meanwhile, the flame pyramid created by the Triple Flame Barrier had also reverted to an emerald color.

Shi Feng breathed out a deep sigh of relief after seeing this situation.

Fortunately, he had brought along Elemental Sources with him, which allowed him to strengthen the Tier 3 Triple Flame Barrier, letting it possess the might of a Tier 4 Defensive Spell. However, the Tyrant's Soul's Thunder God's Annihilation had also depleted the Elemental Source's energy completely.

Although the Elemental Source's power was exhausted, the Triple Flame Barrier's duration had also recovered to its normal state; it would now last him until the activation process of the treasure chest was over.

However, the Tyrant's Soul did not stop attacking despite the failure of its second attack. It immediately started preparing another Tier 4 Spell to bombard Shi Feng with. The number of Tier 4 Spells the Mythic monster grasped astonished even Shi Feng.

The Tyrant's Soul possessed not only an extremely high combat standard but also many Tier 4 Spells. Against such a monster, even a 100-man team of Tier 3 experts of the same level would get routed.

Fortunately, the Triple Flame Barrier endured the Tyrant's Soul's third attack without faltering. Eventually, when the emerald flame pyramid disappeared, the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest also opened.

Seeing the treasure chest open infuriated the Tyrant's Soul. Its body started to release pitch-black fog. Then, the Mythic monster charged at Shi Feng with the speed of lightning. Shi Feng activated Absolute

Domain without hesitation. Without even looking, he frantically plucked items from inside the treasure chest and placed them in his bag.

“Die!” The Tyrant’s Soul could not help but bellow in rage at this scene.

This time, though, the Mythic monster did not gather Mana and summon a lightning blade to its hand. Instead, it unsheathed a rusted longsword hung around its waist. Although this longsword looked very ordinary, space tore apart wherever the edge of this longsword crossed. The Tyrant’s Soul swung the longsword down at Shi Feng ruthlessly.

Chapter 1629 – Saint Weapon

Shi Feng’s complexion darkened at the sight of the rusted longsword descending towards him.

Although Tier 4 existences were capable of tearing apart space with their attacks, this required a considerable amount of effort. Yet, the Tyrant’s Soul’s rusted longsword achieved this feat with seemingly no effort on the Mythic monster’s part. This meant that every one of the Tyrant’s Soul’s normal attacks would carry power equivalent to that of an ordinary Mythic monster executing an all-out attack.

As the rusted longsword descended, a black seam cut at the golden barrier that appeared around Shi Feng.

Boom!

Along with a loud boom, a powerful gale surged into the tower's surroundings. The players standing outside the tower lost their footing once more.

"What kind of monster is this?"

"Is a Mythic monster really that powerful?"

Everyone could not help but gape in shock as they gazed up at the Tyrant's Soul.

Just the shockwave from one of the Tyrant's Soul's attacks reduced them to such a miserable state. If they fought the Mythic monster, the consequences would be unimaginable.

As the dust above the tower settled, Shi Feng, who had activated Absolute Domain, emerged, apparently intact. However, the impact resulting from the attack had driven him back several steps before he could stabilize himself.

What is that sword? Shi Feng wore a grim expression as he stared at the Tyrant's Soul's longsword.

Although Absolute Domain was an Invulnerability Skill, there was no true invulnerability in God's Domain. Even so, Absolute Domain should have no problem blocking Tier 4 attacks. Yet, against the Tyrant's Soul's longsword, Absolute Domain was no longer absolute.

Absolute Domain created a protective barrier made up of divine runes around his body. Meanwhile, the moment the rusted longsword collided with the protective barrier, Shi Feng had clearly seen the rusted longsword moving roughly an inch into the barrier, deforming it. The intense impact had even forced him to retreat by four steps.

This was something Shi Feng had never seen happen before.

Not waiting for Shi Feng to make a move, the Tyrant's Soul immediately brandished its rusted longsword again. Suddenly, several black seams extended towards him.

Previously, one black seam had been enough to drive Shi Feng back by several steps already. When multiple black seams descended on him simultaneously, he suddenly felt death looming over him. Without hesitation, he activated Disintegration Field to suppress the Tyrant's Soul. Although the Domain Skill had little effect on Mythic monsters, it could still reduce the Tyrant's Soul's Basic Attributes slightly.

Following which, Shi Feng activated the Tier 2 Taboo Skill Instant Strike, instantly disappearing from his original location, appearing slightly closer to the Tyrant's Soul, and narrowly avoiding the several spatial tear attacks.

Although Instant Strike increased both his damage and Attack Speed drastically, Shi Feng had no intention of clashing with the Tyrant's Soul. Instead, he turned around and continued looting the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest.

The treasure chest held many items. However, since he did not know which one was the most valuable, he simply picked up as many as he could. In the blink of an eye, two more items entered his bag. Upon seeing this, the Tyrant's Soul became even more enraged and brandished its rusted sword again.

The Tyrant's Soul's Attack Speed was extremely fast. Even Shi Feng could not dodge the Mythic monster's attacks in time. Knowing this, he decided not to dodge and allowed the Tyrant's Soul to attack him as it wished while he continued looting the treasure chest. Right now, every additional item he obtained counted.

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

Beneath the bombardment, Shi Feng got pushed aside time after time. As a result of receiving multiple powerful attacks in quick succession, the duration of the protective shield, which should've lasted ten seconds, decreased significantly. Regardless, Shi Feng persisted in looting the treasure chest.

“Despicable thief! You dare take my family’s treasures! I will turn you into ashes!” the Tyrant’s Soul bellowed. In the next moment, the black fog its body emitted merged with the rusted longsword.

Suddenly, silver divine runes started appearing along the rusted blade of the longsword. Although the blade looked very ordinary, the instant the runes on the silver blade lit up, Shi Feng, who was heading towards the treasure chest once again after being blown away, abruptly halted in his tracks. He then instinctively retreated a step.

Death!

Shi Feng saw his death when he looked at the silver longsword. Moreover, this wasn’t any ordinary death. For a moment, he felt that, should he take another step forward, he would thoroughly disappear from God’s Domain.

Meanwhile, when the Tyrant’s Soul looked at Shi Feng now, although its complexion had paled considerably and it appeared quite fatigued, absolute confidence filled its eyes. It was as if it knew that at this moment, nothing could stop its attack.

Not good!

Shi Feng suddenly thought of a certain matter, his complexion turning ashen instantly. He hastily switched to the Aura of Space and activated Space Movement, opening a spatial tunnel before him. Despite Absolute Domain having another three seconds left, he jumped into the spatial tunnel without hesitation.

As soon as Shi Feng jumped into the spatial tunnel, the Tyrant's Soul arrived before the tunnel and slashed its longsword at the tunnel.

When the longsword descended, the clouds a long distance away split apart. Likewise, the spatial tunnel, which the silver longsword had made direct contact with, was cut in half.

"What kind of attack is that?" When the far-off members of Zero Wing and the White Tiger Dojo saw the massive tear in space that had appeared above the tower as well as the bisected spatial tunnel, their eyes nearly fell out of their own sockets.

A spatial tunnel was created by opening a hole in space. Yet, the Tyrant's Soul had actually managed to slice even the spatial tunnel in half.

Meanwhile, after the spatial tunnel was cut in two, it instantly disappeared into nothingness.

"Despicable thief! I will never let you get away!" the Tyrant's Soul bellowed in rage when it saw Shi Feng escaping successfully, its voice echoing throughout the Lost Town.

When the members of Zero Wing and White Tiger Dojo, who stood at a distance, felt the killing intent the Tyrant's Soul radiated, they felt as if their bodies had petrified; they did not dare to move even in the slightest.

...

Meanwhile, beside a flowing stream located in a map neighboring the Boneless Land, Shi Feng suddenly appeared. The moment he exited the spatial tunnel, he collapsed to the ground, panting heavily.

That was close!

He had very nearly lost everything.

As expected of the guardian of a Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. It actually possesses even a Saint Weapon! When Shi Feng recalled the Tyrant's Soul's final attack, he could not help but shudder in fear.

Previously, he had failed to detect what made the Tyrant's Soul's longsword so special. He simply felt that it was a very powerful weapon.

However, the moment he saw the divine runes on the silver longsword lighting up as well as sensed the monstrous amounts of Mana the weapon exuded...

Aside from a Tier 5 Mana Weapon, he really could not figure out what other weapons could replicate such a feat.

Mana Weapons were originally meant to suck dry the potential of their raw materials and exhibit power beyond one's imagination. However, the higher-tiered a Mana Weapon was, the more difficult it was to produce it. Among them, Tier 3 Mana Weapons were labeled as Higher-order Mana Weapons, while Tier 5 Mana Weapons were labeled as Saint Weapons. Needless to say, Saint Weapons were exceedingly rare in God's Domain, so much so that their rarity rivaled that of Legendary Weapons.

In the past, he had seen the battle video of a Tier 5 expert wielding a Saint Weapon against a Tier 6 God-ranked expert. When the Tier 5 expert invested all his power into his Saint Weapon for an all-out attack, silver divine runes had appeared on the Saint Weapon. Back then, even the Tier 6 God-ranked expert had to go full-bore to repulse the Saint Weapon's attack.

One could just imagine how powerful Saint Weapons were.

Had he been killed by the Tyrant's Soul's attack just now, he definitely wouldn't have lost only a single level. Most likely, even his Immortal Soul would have been annihilated.

Fortunately, he had reacted quickly and left in time.

Meanwhile, just as Shi Feng was about to celebrate, the sound of a system notification entered his ears.

...

System: You have angered the Tyrant's Soul. The Tyrant's Soul has used Soul Pursuit on you and will send a Soul Doppelganger after you once every day.

Chapter 1630 – Abundant Harvest

Shi Feng could not help but frown as he read the system notification.

Soul Pursuit was a type of curse. It was one of the most common in God's Domain and very challenging to deal with. Regardless of where players were, the user's Soul Doppelganger would appear beside them.

Shi Feng was already familiar with the Tyrant's Soul's power. The fact that it wielded a Saint Weapon put its Attack Power on par with ordinary Tier 5 classes. If it really came down to a fight, even a 100-man Tier 3 team of the same level would have to use special means to take the Mythic monster down. Current players simply had no hope against the Tyrant's Soul.

Although Soul Doppelganger wasn't as powerful as the main body during the first few appearances, it would grow stronger with each attempt to slay the target until it eventually rivaled its user.

There were two ways to resolve this type of curse. The first was to kill the main body, while the second was to kill the final Soul Doppelganger, which would be as strong as the main body. There were no other ways to stop Soul Pursuit.

Clearly, the first method was impossible for Shi Feng right now, and the second would require a long, arduous battle with the Tyrant's Soul, would only complicate his future development.

As Shi Feng tried to think of a way to deal with the Tyrant's Soul's persistent pursuit, his head began to ache.

If the Soul Doppelganger only showed up once every three or five days, he could cope, but he hadn't expected the Tyrant's Soul's curse to hound him once every day. In other words, he would have to defeat the Tyrant's Soul's Soul Doppelganger once every day. Moreover, it would appear at random. Although he could hide in an NPC city and let the city's guards deal with the Tyrant's Soul's Doppelganger, he wouldn't accomplish anything if he did.

Shi Feng could only shake his head with a bitter smile about his situation. He had never thought that looting a Magic Crystal Treasure Chest would be so problematic. The most frustrating part was that he had only managed to grab five items from the Magic Crystal Treasure Chest. The chest contained at least another five or six items. Had he collected all of the items, he wouldn't have minded the Tyrant's Soul's hunt, yet he had to avoid the Soul Doppelganger despite only claiming half of the treasure chest's items...

But Shi Feng didn't give the matter too much thought. Instead, he instructed Zero Wing's internal members and the White Tiger Dojo's disciples to leave the Lost Town and wait for his arrival. Meanwhile, he examined the items he had acquired from the treasure chest.

In his previous life, he had heard countless rumors about Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chests' loot even surpassing the quality of items in Epic Treasure Chests.

However, since the Twelve Sacred Elementalists' Chaos Star had been the only known player to obtain a Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest and had never divulged any information about his bounty, these rumors had been nothing more than that, just rumors.

After Shi Feng inspected the contents of his bag space, an excited expression illuminated his features, quickly replaced by one of utter shock.

So, this is a Gold Magic Crystal Treasure Chest? Shi Feng was elated as he gazed at the five new items in his bag.

Three of the five items were pieces of equipment. One was an Epic plate armor helmet called the Trembling Crown, and another was an Epic shield named Trembling Shield. Both pieces of Epic Equipment belonged to the Trembling Set, a bona fide Epic ranked Set Equipment. When a player equipped two pieces of this set, the user would receive a Passive Skill called Tough Body, which increased the player's Endurance and physique by 10% while reducing incoming damage by 20%.

An Epic Set Equipment!

Acquiring a single Epic Weapon or piece of Equipment was already difficult for God's Domain's current superpowers, not to mention Epic Set Equipment.

Even ten years after God's Domain's launch, Epic Set Equipment had been considered the best available in the game. After all, Fragmented Legendary and Legendary items were simply too rare.

Even though Shi Feng only had two pieces of the Trembling Set, the effects these pieces provided would significantly improve a player's combat power.

If one of the Guild's MTs equipped these two pieces, their combat power would definitely undergo a qualitative transformation. Needless to say, the stronger the Guild's MTs were, the more they'd benefit the Guild's development. Every Guild needed powerful MTs to tank Dungeon and Field Bosses, and if the Guild didn't have an MT that could handle the task, it would never complete the raid.

However, of the three pieces of equipment Shi Feng had looted, the third piece truly surprised him.

The third piece of equipment was a Tier 3 Mana Weapon. Unfortunately, the Tier 3 Mana Weapon was a two-handed sword, not a one-handed sword.

...

[Edgeless Blade] (Two-handed Sword, Tier 3 Mana Weapon)

Equipment Requirement: Tier 2

Attack Power (240% of Strength)

All Attributes (Increases according to user's level and tier)

When equipped:

User's body will transform into a Mana Body, gathering nearby Mana to them and strengthening their perception;

Improves physique by 15%;

Increases Strength by 40%, Agility by 30%, Endurance by 20%;

Increases critical rate by 10%;

Decreases Stamina consumption by 15%;

Increases the power of all Skills by 20%;

Ignore Levels +15.

Durability 220/220

Additional Passive Skill-

Mana Strengthening: Provides additional Basic Attributes to the user depending on the density of the ambient Mana. The higher the ambient Mana density is, the higher the Basic Attributes provided will be. Basic Attributes can increase to a maximum of 20%.

Additional Active Skill-

Limit Blade: By absorbing the user's power and sacrificing a fraction of the weapon's durability, the Edgeless Blade will increase the user's Strength Attribute by 200% for one attack. Each attack costs one durability.

As this sword is a Mana Weapon, it cannot be repaired. Weapon will automatically disappear when durability reaches 0.

...

A Tier 3 Mana Weapon could even provide a tremendous boost to Tier 3 players, and although it was a Consumable item, it was even more valuable than Epic Weapons.

The weapon's sole Active Skill, Limit Blade, was particularly valuable. Although the 200% increase in Strength didn't seem much compared to its significant cost, the weapon's Attack Power was based on the user's Strength. Hence, the 200% increase to Strength provided a formidable boost to the user's destructive power. If a Tier 3 player equipped this weapon, they could even stand against Tier 4 opponents of the same level.

Epic Weapons had no chance of achieving such a feat.

However, the Edgeless Blade was only the third most valuable of the items Shi Feng had obtained. The second most valuable item was a Tier 3 Combination Skill called Fiery Thunderstorm, which required five magical class players to perform. This Combination Skill could even rival a Tier 4 Spell.

Guilds wouldn't even sell a Combination Skill of this power for 100,000 Magic Crystals.

After all, the Skill that could be a trump card when challenging Tier 4 Mythic monsters. Tier 4 Magic Scrolls were extremely rare in God's Domain, but Combination Skills could be used indefinitely, and such scrolls could never compare to the value of Fiery Thunderstorm. Unfortunately, Fiery Thunderstorm was a single-target Spell, not a large-scale destruction Spell.

Even so, Shi Feng was quite satisfied to find this Spell in his bag. At the very least, he now had a weapon to deal with Tier 4 Mythic monsters.

The last of the five items was a unique crystal. It was also what shocked Shi Feng the most.

A burning, purple flame danced within this crystal, and arcs of golden electricity flickered around the flame. The purple flame radiated an intensely tyrannical aura, and Shi Feng shuddered as he gazed at it.

This flame was also an item Shi Feng had been looking for for a long time now. It was a Tier 3 Mysterious Flame called the Purple Thunder Flame.