

Strongest

Chapter 1671: City Rookie

"He won?"

"Our Guild Leader is amazing!"

As the Zero Wing team watched the Shadows of Trial in the magic array gradually fade, they couldn't believe their eyes.

The battle that had just occurred had overwhelmed them mentally. If they had been distracted for a split second, they would've missed the instant Shi Feng and the Shadows had clashed. Both sides' Basic Attributes were ridiculously high, and they could clash multiple times in the instant it took to blink.

The several dozen White Tiger Dojo disciples that had joined the team on the fifth floor were utterly dumbfounded.

They had witnessed many expert battles in the past and had even fought experts in the Battle Arena, but if they had to rank the experts they've seen thus far, the player before them would doubtlessly rank at the very top.

It's finally over. Shi Feng breathed a deep sigh of relief once the battle had ended.

He hadn't expected the Asura ranked test to be so difficult. If not for the epiphany regarding the Realms of Truth, which had allowed him greater use of his own body and everything around him, including his opponents, the Shadows of Trial would have defeated him.

However, this experience had taught Shi Feng one thing.

Aside from improving in the Realms of Refinement, which focused on one's senses and physical control, it was very important that players climb the Realms of Truth.

The Realms of Refinement were akin to the body. As one became physically stronger, they'd be able to exert more strength. However, the Realms of Truth were like a weapon. Although an individual could rely on physical strength to pose a threat, there was a limit to how much of a threat they'd become, but if that person were given a weapon to complement their strength, they could pose an even greater threat. Naturally, the better the weapon one wielded, the more power they could exhibit.

This also why experts who had yet to reach the Refinement Realm were sometimes capable of defeating Refinement Realm experts with their combat techniques. Combat techniques made use of the Realms of Truth's principles.

It seems that we'll need to increase everyone's familiarity with the Realms of Truth in the future, Shi Feng thought to himself.

There was a limit to how fast one could reach higher Realms of Refinement, and reaching higher Realms of Truth wouldn't conflict with a player's growth in the Realms of Refinement. In fact, the two realms would even complement each other, helping one improve their combat power far faster.

Only, introducing everyone to the Realms of Truth wouldn't be easy. First, he needed a proper training ground. It was obvious that neither the Battle Arena nor the Divine Colosseum could offer similar benefits as Rhinebeck's test.

Without such a training ground, players wouldn't be able to comprehend the Realms of Truth's principles regardless of how many times he explained them. Moreover, understanding theory and putting said theory into practice were two different things.

Wait, that's not right. There is one.

Suddenly, Shi Feng recalled the white tower within the Lost Town.

While the white tower seemed like a device designed to help players improve their combat standards and gain a better feel for the Refinement Realm, it actually operated very much like Rhinebeck's test. Hence, Shi Feng should be able to use the tower to help his players comprehend the Realms of Truth. Furthermore, God's Domain's lore never mentioned the Realms of Refinement, only the Realms of Truth.

The more Shi Feng thought about it, the more he felt that the white tower was a suitable training device to help players grasp the Realms of Truth.

A sacred land to train in the Realms of Truth, huh? Shi Feng had begun to give up on the Lost Town, preparing to accept the system's penalty, but now, his desire to secure the town had reignited. It's no wonder why the quest to obtain the Lost Town is so difficult. So, this is why.

Training one's grasp of the Realms of Refinement had long since become common in the virtual gaming world. The various Super Guilds already had complete training systems for just that, while super-first-rate Guilds had partial systems. However, not one of these Guilds had a training system for the Realms of Truth. They most likely didn't even know how to train players' grasp of the Realms of Truth.

If he could secure the Lost Town, he'd have a sacred land for players to focus on the Realms of Truth. With the help of the white tower, players would not have to waste time poking around in the dark like the Freedom Alliance's Silent Entropy and could grasp the Realms of Truth with much greater efficiency.

With the Boneless Land's Lost Town housing such a sacred tool, it was only natural that the quest to obtain it would be insanely difficult.

As Shi Feng tried to figure out how to complete the Demon's Nest quest, he heard the sound of a system notification.

...

System: Congratulations! You are the first player to complete the Asura-rank Entrance Test. Rewarding 3,000 Primordial City Contribution Points and one Primordial City's City Rookie Emblem.

...

"Young adventurer, congratulations on passing the test. As the first heaven-blessed individual to pass the Asura ranked test, this City Rookie Emblem belongs to you. Make good use of it. Who knows? It might even help you improve further within Primordial City," Tyrol said after appearing before Shi Feng. He then took out a silver emblem in the shape of a crescent moon encompassing a sun and passed it to Shi Feng.

The instant the emblem appeared, the surrounding Mana gravitated towards and circled the emblem.

City Rookie Emblem? After recovering from his shock over the additional 3,000 Contribution Points, Shi Feng gave the emblem a curious look.

This was the first time he had heard of this item. Based on Tyrol's tone when he had mentioned it, it should be extraordinary.

Immediately, Shi Feng tried to inspect the emblem's Attribute Panel.

...

[City Rookie Emblem] (Dark-Gold Rank)

Primordial City's Emblem of Honor. When worn, user will enjoy the authority of a Bronze Adventurer in Primordial City. In addition, user may teleport to Primordial City from any location.

Cooldown: Two natural days (96 hours)

User restriction: Ye Feng

...

Amazing! It's giving me the authority of a Bronze Adventurer right off the bat! No wonder why he told me to make good use of it! Shi Feng was ecstatic as he gazed at the City Rookie Emblem.

At this point, the term 'Bronze Adventurer' was still foreign to God's Domain's players. This was because the title was unique to Primordial City. Bronze Adventurers in Primordial City were the equivalent of nobles in NPC cities. Only, as the Ancient Gods had specifically created Primordial City for adventurers,

noble ranks didn't exist within its walls. Rather, special ranks were granted to adventurers based on their contributions to the city.

The available ranks included Common Adventurer, Bronze Adventurer, Silver Adventurer, and Gold Adventurer. Each subsequent rank enjoyed greater authority and treatment in Primordial City than the last.

However, it was extremely difficult for players to rise through the ranks as they weren't based on Primordial City Contribution Points. Instead, they were determined by one's Primordial City Honor Points. One had to earn 1,000 Honor Points just to become a Bronze Adventurer.

Moreover, players would be fortunate to receive one Honor Point even after completing a high-rank quest in the city. If players wanted to earn more than that per quest, they'd have to complete Primordial City's Trial Quests, which were exceedingly challenging. Unfortunately, failing to complete the trial resulted in an unusually severe death penalty.

In the past, most players had opted for the safe and reliable method of completing high-rank quests to collect Honor Points rather than challenge Primordial City's Trial Quests.

Because of this, very few players had become Bronze Adventurers, let alone Silver or Gold Adventurers. Even after ten years in God's Domain, Shi Feng had never heard of someone becoming a Gold Adventurer.

Meanwhile, not only would Bronze Adventurers enjoy a 10% discount on all expenditures that required Primordial City Contribution Points, but they'd also get to enjoy other benefits that Common Adventurers had no access to.

One such example was the planar teleportation function, which allowed players to travel to the various Higher Planes. Not only were the Higher Planes' monsters much stronger, but they also dropped far better loot. It was also possible to obtain unique resources. Only, teleporting to a Higher Plane was

expensive, costing 1,000 Contribution Points per teleportation. If players died in these Higher Planes, they'd be teleported back to Primordial City instantly. Without sufficient strength and preparation, only a fool would grind in these Higher Planes.

Right! There's still the Higher Planes! Shi Feng's eyes suddenly sparkled.

Other players might not know where to secure a large number of Darkness Stones, but he did. However, he hadn't had the means to reach these locations, but now, he did.

Shi Feng immediately instructed his team to challenge the entrance test and told them what to do once they entered Primordial City. Meanwhile, he made his way, with Tyrol's help, to the city.

When Shi Feng arrived in Primordial City, every player within the Primordial Divine Ruin received a system notification about it.

Chapter 1672 – Seven Luminaries Temple

Many players were still fighting in the Primordial Divine Ruin, and the various superpowers on the fourth floor were preparing to raid the recently respawned Frostflame Two-headed Earth Dragon. However, before they could begin, they heard the crisp voice of the system.

...

Primordial Divine Ruin Region System Announcement: A player has successfully entered Primordial City. From now onward, after 500 players have entered Primordial City, the entrance test's difficulty will increase by 30%. After 1,000 players have entered Primordial City, the difficulty will increase by 50%. Count resets once per day.

...

The system announcement repeated three times, its message becoming ingrained in everyone's minds.

"How did Zero Wing get into Primordial City so quickly?"

"After the 500th player, the difficulty to enter Primordial City will increase?"

The upper echelons of the various superpowers stuck on the fourth floor revealed somber expressions upon listening to the system notification.

Based on the system notification, they discovered that Primordial City did not have an entry limit. Players only needed to pass a test to enter the legendary city. However, as many as 800 Zero Wing members had proceeded to the Primordial Divine Ruin's fifth floor. If the entrance test were not particularly difficult, then Zero Wing would claim the first 500 slots.

This meant that the tests the various superpowers would have to pass to enter would become far more difficult. Due to the increased difficulty, players who would have been capable of passing the test might fail. This, in turn, would decrease the number of players the various superpowers could send into the city.

Now that they had a clearer understanding of the situation, these superpowers became even more desperate to reach the fifth floor as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, news of Zero Wing entering Primordial City quickly spread outside of the ruin.

“What? Zero Wing is the first Guild to send players into Primordial City? Doesn’t that mean Zero Wing will be the first to pioneer and explore the city?”

“I’m afraid that it’s not that simple. I’ve heard that only the first 500 players will face the normal difficulty entry tests, whereas other players’ tests will be more difficult. The test’s difficulty will increase yet again after 1,000 players have entered Primordial City. I’ve also heard that Zero Wing led 800 players to the fifth floor. It’ll monopolize the first 500 slots. With this, the various superpowers will likely have a tough time completing with Zero Wing when pioneering the city.”

“With that many of its members entering Primordial City, Zero Wing will reap a huge harvest. From what I learned after looking into it, it seems like it’s pretty easy to obtain combat techniques from Primordial City. This is especially true for Advanced Combat Techniques.”

Suddenly, more independent players from various kingdoms became interested in Zero Wing.

Both Basic Combat Techniques and Advanced Combat Techniques were out of reach for independent players like themselves. The various large Guilds treated these combat techniques like family heirlooms, and they had strict requirements for anyone who wanted to learn their combat techniques, such as becoming a core member and signing a restrictive contract with the Guild.

However, Zero Wing could procure a large number of combat techniques from Primordial City, and if that was the case, Zero Wing may have looser conditions for learning the techniques it collected. It

might even make the combat techniques available to all of its members, rather than just the core members.

With that hope in mind, many independent players, particularly experts, began to gather in White River City and Zero Wing City from other kingdoms.

As players tried to learn more about the Guild, Zero Wing posted an announcement on Star-Moon Kingdom's official forums. This announcement instantly caused a commotion throughout the kingdom.

"How generous of Zero Wing!"

"With this, even independent players like us can learn combat techniques!"

"But isn't 1,000 Magic Crystals a little expensive? Even experts will have to work hard for a long time to collect enough, let alone weaker players."

"You think that's expensive? You should see what the other Guilds with combat techniques are demanding. Take Heaven's Burial, for example. Although the Guild has plenty of combat techniques, anyone who wishes to learn them has to sign a very strict contract. In addition, members have to pay a certain price to learn each combat technique. Their price is only slightly under 1,000 Magic Crystals. It's better to learn the techniques from Zero Wing. At the very least, we'll retain our freedom."

...

For a time, a large number of independent players celebrated Zero Wing's decision. The news excited many adventurer teams as well.

Independent players might struggle to collect 1,000 Magic Crystals, but it wasn't any trouble for an adventurer team with several hundred members.

When the various large Guilds discovered the announcement, however, they fumed with fury. This was especially true for the Guilds that had acquired combat techniques of their own. They had planned to use their combat techniques to attract loyal experts and gain an advantage over their competitors, but Zero Wing's latest announcement had ruined that idea.

...

"Black Flame's means truly are amazing. Heaven's Burial is likely doomed to fall, now," Yuan Tiexin said. He could not help his rueful sigh as he read the report a subordinate had just sent.

"Uncle Yuan, what happened?" Purple Jade asked curiously.

"Take a look for yourself," Yuan Tiexin said as he forwarded the report to Purple Jade.

When Purple Jade read the report, her eyes widened in shock. She found it truly hard to believe that Zero Wing would actually be so generous as to offer its combat techniques to other players. By doing so, it would undoubtedly deal a massive blow to the various first-rate Guilds that had acquired their own combat techniques. Naturally, Heaven's Burial was no exception. The Guild's upper echelons would weep and rage once they heard about this...

...

While everyone discussed Zero Wing, Shi Feng arrived in Primordial City's Teleportation Hall.

The Teleportation Hall's main hall looked like a massive cave. The hall's ceiling was at least 100 meters from the ground. It also seemed like some kind of miniature sun was stuck in the ceiling, illuminating the hall. As Shi Feng looked around, he discovered numerous Mana-operated elevators, which led towards various spatial junctions. NPCs could arrive and leave Primordial City through these spatial junctions at any moment.

These NPCs weren't limited to the human race, including members from other races as well.

The instant Shi Feng had arrived, both his mind and body had felt energized. The Mana density here was no lower than that of Titan City. Players would definitely have an easier time practicing their combat or producing items here than elsewhere.

Since Shi Feng had visited Primordial City many times in his previous life, he didn't bother to look around the Teleportation Hall like some curious tourist. Instead, he quickly left the hall and ventured to Primordial City's streets.

Primordial City was a city of legend. The city had as many NPCs as the most populated NPC cities in God's Domain. There were easily over four or five million NPCs within the city at all times, which was more than ten times the number of NPCs in Star-Moon Kingdom's capital.

Moreover, unlike the NPCs in ordinary NPC cities, those in Primordial City were at least Level 150. Tier 2 NPCs were insignificant here, usually serving as gate attendants. Tier 3 NPCs, which were rare in other NPC cities, strode down almost every street in Primordial City. One would even find Tier 4 NPCs window shopping.

After leaving the Teleportation Hall, Shi Feng summoned his Demonic Flame Tiger and made his way towards the heart of Primordial City.

Although Primordial City's layout was complex, Shi Feng knew the city like the back of his hand. After traveling for around 20 minutes, he reached a towering temple.

The temple before him was over 300 meters tall and occupied enough space to accommodate 100,000 people. It looked more like a mountain than a building.

This temple was also the most important structure in Primordial City.

The Seven Luminaries Temple!

Chapter 1673 – Primordial Scroll

Two mechanical puppets at the temple's entrance stopped Shi Feng before he could enter the building.

"This is the Seven Luminaries Temple! Unauthorized individuals are not allowed entry!" The two mechanical puppets crossed their greatswords before the entrance, preventing Shi Feng from proceeding.

If any other player saw these mechanical puppets, they would definitely be given a fright.

Both mechanical puppets were Level 200 Mythic monsters. They weren't ordinary mechanical puppets, either, but Magically Enhanced Puppets. Not only did they possess extremely high intellect, but they also wielded Domains. In other words, they were Tier 4 Mythic monsters with Domain Skills.

Even Tier 4 NPCs with Domains would not be a match for these Magically Enhanced Puppets.

Furthermore, these Magically Enhanced Puppets were only the Seven Luminaries Temple's gate attendants. There were much stronger guards within the temple itself. Based on Shi Feng's knowledge, not even Tier 6 God-ranked players would dare to act presumptuously in the Seven Luminaries Temple without losing their lives.

Primordial City was one of the safest cities throughout God's Domain. Neither monsters nor players dared to cause trouble here, and those who did were killed without question.

Meanwhile, Shi Feng wasn't surprised to find these Magically Enhanced Puppets barring his path.

The Seven Luminaries Temple was one of Primordial City's core buildings. It was also where players could exchange their Contribution Points for items. But only players who had become adventurers within the city were allowed inside; everyone else would be stopped at the door.

If players wanted to become adventurers here, they had to pick up an Adventurer Quest from Primordial City's Adventurer's Association. After completing their Adventurer Quest, players would be granted a Primordial City Adventurer Emblem. Players would only be considered a Common Adventurer in the city once they had this emblem, and it would allow them to enjoy some of the benefits the city offered.

However, since Shi Feng was in a hurry, he hadn't stopped by the Adventurer's Association to pick up the Adventurer's Quest.

In response to the crossed greatswords before him, Shi Feng took out his City Rookie Emblem and showed it to the guards, asking, "Can I enter now?"

The City Rookie Emblem granted him the status of a Bronze Adventurer in Primordial City. Although the status couldn't be upgraded, it was enough for now. If he had free time in the future, he could simply pick up the Adventurer Quest and obtain the real Adventurer Emblem.

"City Rookie Emblem confirmed! Identity confirmed! You may enter!"

After the two puppets inspected the City Rookie Emblem, they relaxed into their original stances and turned their attention away from Shi Feng. Seeing this, Shi Feng made his way into the Seven Luminaries Temple.

The Seven Luminaries Temple's lobby was a beautifully decorated plaza. The scenery was spectacular. It contained areas where people could rest and chat, and it even offered open-air restaurants and bars.

The food and beverages sold here were unique to Primordial City and couldn't be removed from the city. But the taste of these items was simply unforgettable. Even players who enjoyed delicious delicacies everyday longed to dine here, but very few players could afford to do so.

Every item in the Seven Luminaries Temple cost Primordial City Contribution Points. Neither Coins nor Magic Crystals were accepted as currency. Meanwhile, a single meal here cost at least 100 CPs. Of course, players who consumed the meal would receive benefits that corresponded to the 100 CPs they paid, improving perception and focus. Unfortunately, the effects from a 100 CP meal would only last two hours.

During that time, however, players could make use of the buff by renting a training room in the Seven Luminaries Temple to practice the combat techniques they had recently purchased.

Likewise, the training rooms cost CPs to rent, with the Basic Training Rooms costing 10 CPs per hour, Intermediate Training Rooms costing 30 CPs per hour, and Advanced Training Rooms costing 100 CPs per hour.

To most players, though, this cost was astronomical.

The system only granted free CPs on players first visit to Primordial City, rewarding nothing for subsequent entries. Hence, it was very important that players carefully decide how to enter the Primordial City for their first visit. Aside from the first entry bonus, players could only obtain more Contribution Points by completing quests and through achievements in Primordial City.

Shi Feng didn't bother to look around after entering the Seven Luminaries Temple as he made his way for the exchange counter.

"Sir, may I know what item you wish to purchase?" an elven beauty behind the counter asked with a smile.

Although the female Elf looked like a simple administer for the exchange department, if one paid close attention, they'd discover that she was actually a Level 150, Tier 3 Great Mage. Moreover, as a member of the Elven race, her innate affinity with Mana was incredibly high, making her slightly stronger than ordinary Tier 3 Great Mages of the same level.

Inside a minor NPC city, this female Elf could easily serve as the city's Magistrate...

If this elven woman decided to attack Shi Feng now, he'd die instantly unless he activated an Invulnerability Skill in time.

"I wish to purchase Primordial Souls," Shi Feng said.

"Primordial Souls are extremely rare, so each will cost you 200 Contribution Points. We also have a daily exchange limit on Primordial Souls. Only 100 Primordial Souls are made available each day," the Elf explained. "May I know how many Primordial Souls you wish to purchase, Sir?"

"Twenty," Shi Feng stated.

Primordial Souls were rare tools that could help players when they challenged their Promotion Quests. They were also unique to Primordial City. Naturally, Shi Feng had to purchase as many Primordial Souls as he could afford now. Meanwhile, aside from the 5,000 CPs he had gained for clearing the Asura ranked entrance test, he had received a bonus of 3,000 CPs from the system, giving him a total of 8,000 CPs, so spending 4,000 on Primordial Souls wouldn't put him in the red. He also wasn't sure how many Zero Wing members would make it into Primordial City.

Fortunately, unlike other players, he had the City rookie Emblem, which allowed him to earn CPs far more easily.

"Alright." The Elf administrator then retrieved twenty bottles from the spatial storage unit behind her and said, "Sir, as a City Rookie, you enjoy a 10% discount on all purchases. Your total bill comes to 3,600 Contribution Points. Do you wish to purchase anything else?"

After giving the matter some thought, Shi Feng gritted his teeth and said, "I want to purchase 12 Primordial Scrolls and one teleportation stone to the Darkness Plane."

Initially, he had planned to purchase Advanced Combat Techniques after reaching Primordial City, but obtaining the Boneless Land's Lost Town was far more important right now.

The Darkness Plane was one of the Higher Planes in God's Domain, and the Power of Darkness on that plane was incredibly dense. Naturally, the monsters living in the Darkness Plane contained frightening amounts of Power of Darkness within them. When killed, they had a high chance of dropping a Darkness Stone Fragment. Alchemists could use 100 of these fragments to synthesize a complete Darkness Stone, but their success rate was an excruciatingly low 30%. However, this was, by far, the best method to obtain Darkness Stones.

On the other hand, if he tried to hunt darkness-type Mythic monsters, the chance of obtaining a complete Darkness Stone was around 10%.

When players in the past had to acquire Darkness Stones, they usually decided to do so in the Darkness Plane.

However, as a Higher Plane, the Darkness Plane was extremely dangerous. With Shi Feng's current strength, grinding there would be purely suicidal. He only dared to do so because he had the Bible of Darkness.

If he wanted to increase his survival chances in the Darkness Plane, the Primordial Scrolls were necessary.

The Primordial Scroll was a super-rare scroll that could only be used in Higher Planes. Players could use the scroll to summon Heroic Spirits to aid them in battle, and it was akin to a Tier 3 Summoning Scroll. However, Heroic Spirits summoned this way operated differently from ordinary summoned creatures.

A summoned Heroic Spirit's strength wasn't in direct combat. Rather, they tended to focus on support. They possessed plenty of Support Skills and Spells that could significantly strengthen players' combat power.

Like the Primordial Souls, there was a daily exchange limit for the Primordial Scrolls.

“Each Primordial Scroll costs 300 Contribution Points. Only Bronze Adventurers and above can purchase the Darkness Plane Teleportation Stone for 1,000 Contribution Points. Including the City Rookie discount, that puts your new total at 7,740 Contribution Points,” the Elf administrator reported, smiling as she took out the items Shi Feng had requested.

Shi Feng then paid his bill, instantly becoming a poor bastard.

But he didn't mind the huge expenditure. Compared to the value of the Lost Town, spending this many Contribution Points was nothing. He then mailed the Primordial Souls to Aqua Rose while he teleported to the Darkness Plane

Chapter 1674 – Darkness Plane

After Shi Feng activated the teleportation stone, he abruptly blacked out. When he opened his eyes again, he found himself in an entirely different world.

The sky was dusky in this world ruled by darkness and death. Shi Feng felt as if he had just arrived in a small, dimly-lit house, barely able to see 20 yards away. All he could see was a barren wasteland. This place didn't seem survivable for any creature.

...

System: You have discovered the Darkness World.

System: Since you do not belong to this world, you find this world's power oppressive. All senses weakened by 50%, Basic Attributes decreased by 30%, and gained EXP decreased by 95%.

System: While in the Darkness World, you cannot make contact with the outside world. Once you die, your soul will be directly expelled from the Darkness World.

...

Three system notifications suddenly reached Shi Feng's ears, one after another.

Even Tier 2 players are suppressed so intensively? Shi Feng frowned when he heard the system notifications.

He wasn't particularly surprised that he had been suppressed. However, what he didn't expect was the degree of suppression.

Not only were Higher Planes much larger than Otherworlds, but the discrimination within them was also more severe. His appearance in the Darkness World was akin to trespassing. Meanwhile, the stronger the creature entering a foreign world was, the greater the suppression would be.

He had also visited Higher Planes in the past. Only, he had already been a Tier 3 player, so his Basic Attributes had only been suppressed by 40%. Even though he had been fully geared in Epic Equipment, his Basic Attributes had only rivaled a Great Lord of the same level. His physique had also been

considerably weaker. He had even had trouble against the various Higher Planes' Great Lords of the same level.

He hadn't expected the suppression on Tier 2 existences to be so severe.

Tier 2 existences stood at the very bottom of the power hierarchy in Higher Planes.

Even at the same level and tier, the Higher Planes' monsters were much stronger than monsters on the God's Domain continent. This was because their Life Ratings were much higher than ordinary monsters, as were their combat standards.

On the continent of God's Domain, Dragons were creatures of legend, but in the Higher Planes, monsters with Life Ratings to rival Dragons were everywhere.

Hence, before reaching a certain strength, players had an exceedingly low survival chance in a Higher Plane. Even though it was common knowledge that Higher Planes offered plenty of high-rank and precious resources that were rare or nonexistent on God's Domain's continent, the various superpowers in Shi Feng's previous life hadn't casually explored these Higher Planes.

Aside from the world's oppression and its monsters' strength, the environment was the greatest difference between the Higher Planes and the continent of God's Domain.

Take the Darkness Plane, for example. Upon arriving in this world, Shi Feng had felt his body become considerably heavier than before. It felt as if the area's gravitational force had increased by three or four times. Moreover, the environment's Power of Darkness continuously corroded his body. Without extremely high Darkness Resistance, the ambient Power of Darkness would slay players even if they stood in place and did nothing.

Not daring to waste time, Shi Feng took out the Bible of Darkness and summoned a Tier 3 Demon.

In response, a Demon in crimson scale armor, wielding a greatsword, appeared before its summoner.

...

[Blood Demon] (Demonic Creature, Tier 3 Demon)

Level 80

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

...

Demons were considered Dark Creatures in God's Domain, so in the Darkness World, they wouldn't be oppressed. Moreover, thanks to the Bible of Darkness's Demon Ruler Skill, the Blood Demon had grown stronger.

This was why Shi Feng had boldly visited the Darkness Plane.

Every monster in the Darkness World was likely stronger than Shi Feng, and he could only see up to 20 yards away. With such a disadvantage, monsters would likely discover him before he would sense them.

On the other hand, if he took control of the Demon, he could observe his surroundings through the Demon's eyes. After giving it a try, he noticed the massive improvement to his range of vision.

By seeing through the Demon's eyes, Shi Feng could see up to 500 yards away. He discovered that he currently stood in a gravel ridge, and a group of ten four-meter-tall Dark Scorpions roamed roughly 300 yards away. Nine of the ten Dark Scorpions had three tails, and the last had five. Moreover, the five-tailed scorpion radiated a light-purple glow.

...

[Dark Scorpion] (Dark Creature, Lord)

Level 65

HP 18,000,000/18,000,000

[Mutated Dark Scorpion] (Dark Creature, Great Lord)

Level 68

HP 43,000,000/43,000,000

...

Had Shi Feng not come prepared, he would've likely ventured into the Dark Scorpion's detection range. If the nine Lords and their Great Lord leader had ambushed him while he had been so powerfully suppressed, he would have died very quickly.

Fortunately, the teleportation stones that transferred players to the Higher Planes generally sent said players to level appropriate areas. Even so, if he sent the Blood Demon to attack the group of Dark Scorpions by itself, the Demon would definitely lose that battle.

The Mutated Dark Scorpion's strength alone could rival the Blood Demon's. As a Higher Plane creature, the Mutated Dark Scorpion had a considerably higher Life Rating, after all. Furthermore, it had the support of nine Lord ranked Dark Scorpions to surround and annihilate the Blood Demon.

However, Shi Feng had no intentions of circling past the group. He then took out a Primordial Scroll and activated it.

As the Primordial Scroll activated, a four-meter-tall elderly man appeared before him. The old man was semi-transparent and wielded a cane.

Not bad. I actually got a Great Druid. Shi Feng was quite satisfied when he saw the old man.

...

[Primordial Heroic Spirit] (Hero, Great Druid)

Level 75

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

...

Although the Primordial Soul summoned a random Heroic Spirit, all summoned Heroic Spirits were Tier 3. Unlike ordinary NPCs, Heroic Spirits wouldn't be oppressed in foreign worlds. In addition, they commanded plenty of Tier 3 Spells and Skills. They were the perfect support for players when grinding in Higher Planes. Any team that intended to grind in a Higher Plain would always purchase Primordial Scrolls before doing so.

After summoning the Heroic Spirit, Shi Feng had the Great Druid cast a series of Tier 3 Support Spells.

Tier 3 Spell Forest's Protection: Increases the Defense and Basic Attributes of all allies by 20% for 30 minutes. Does not stack with other Attribute-increasing Spells.

Tier 3 Spell Nature's Blessing: All Resistances +80, 15% damage reduction, and a 15% increase to Stamina for 30 minutes.

Tier 3 Spell Thorny Vines: Protect a specified target with Magical Vines for 10 minutes. Anyone who attacks said target will receive damage from the Magical Vines.

When the three Support Spells affected the Blood Demon, the Blood Demon's Attributes rose by a large margin.

Following which, Shi Feng controlled the Blood Demon and charged towards the Dark Scorpion group.

When the Blood Demon was less than 200 yards away from the Dark Scorpions, it caught the monsters' attention. Responding, the Dark Scorpions lashed their tails and hissed threateningly.

Not waiting for the Dark Scorpions to attack, Shi Feng used the Tier 3 Spell, Blood Sanction.

Immediately, 50-plus blades of blood flew at the ten Dark Scorpions with lightning speed. Even if Shi Feng were at his peak and activated a Berserk Skill, he would have trouble blocking all 50-plus blood blades. He would have to dodge or activate a Lifesaving Skill to avoid taking a hit.

As the blood blades were about to reach the Dark Scorpions, the latter's tails blurred.

Dang... Dang... Dang...

A series of dazzling sparks lit up the gloomy environment. The nine Lord ranked Dark Scorpions had successfully struck down over 80% of the blood blades, while the weapons that had found their mark had only dealt a little over -30,000 damage. The Mutated Dark Scorpion, however, struck down all nine incoming blades, emerging from the exchange unharmed.

What high Magic Resistance. The outcome surprised Shi Feng a little.

A Tier 3 Demon's Tier 3 Spell carried immense power. Just one of those blood blades could rival a Great Lord's attack of the same level, yet they had only dealt a little over -30,000 damage after landing a direct hit. To the Dark Scorpions, who had 18,000,000 HP each, the damage wasn't significant.

During the brief moment Shi Feng had been surprised, the Mutated Dark Scorpion screeched as its tails began to glow dark-green as they lashed out at the Blood Demon.

The tails had moved so quickly that Shi Feng hadn't been able to react in time. He had only managed to tilt the Blood Demon's body, evading three of the five attacks.

When the Mutated Dark Scorpion's two remaining tails struck the Blood Demon, its stingers slid through the Demon's armor like a knife through paper, each dealing over -400,000 damage...

Chapter 1675 – Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal

After getting struck by the Mutated Dark Scorpion's glowing stingers, the Blood Demon immediately gained a debuff.

-22,347.

When the debuff took effect, Shi Feng suddenly found it much more difficult to control the Blood Demon, the Demon's movements becoming sluggish.

What a powerful poison. Shi Feng was slightly surprised when he checked the debuff.

...

[Paralyzing Venom]

Inflicts 30,000 damage every 0.8 second for 12 seconds. While the venom is still in effect, decreases reaction speed by 40%, Attack Speed by 30%, and Movement Speed by 30%. Effects can be stacked up to 10 times.

...

The majority of toxins in God's Domain only caused victims to lose HP over time. Very few could inflict a paralysis effect, much less be stackable. Although the Blood Demon possessed high Magic Resistance and could mitigate a portion of the damage it received, if the toxin was stacked ten times, even the Blood Demon would fall in no time.

Moreover, the toxin being stacked boosted not only the DoT but also the speed reduction debuff. If that happened, the Blood Demon would have an increasingly difficult time blocking the attacks of the Dark Scorpions, which possessed considerably high combat standards. The Mutated Dark Scorpion's combat standard was even at the level of an ordinary expert player.

In the next moment, the Dark Scorpions launched another wave of attacks at the Blood Demon. Due to the venom, the Blood Demon had great difficulty defending itself. A series of damages ranging from several tens of thousands to several hundred thousand appeared above the Blood Demon's head, its HP plummeting. The number of Paralyzing Venom stacks also increased from one to four.

Now, the Blood Demon was taking -120,000 damage from the venom every 0.8 second. Its reaction speed had also decreased by 60%, and its Attack and Movement Speed by 50%.

Even though the Blood Demon was higher-leveled, it would not last very long against the Dark Scorpions at this rate.

Thank goodness I prepared Primordial Scrolls. Glancing at the Mutated Dark Scorpion, Shi Feng then commanded the Heroic Spirit to cast the Tier 2 Spell Healing Wind.

A light-green gale immediately enveloped the Blood Demon. In the next moment, not only did the Paralyzing Venom debuff disappear altogether, but the Blood Demon also rapidly recovered the 10% or so HP it lost. In the blink of an eye, it was already back to full HP.

Once Healing Wind ended, Shi Feng had the Heroic Spirit cast the Tier 3 Spell Earthen Vine.

Suddenly, vines sprouted beneath the Dark Scorpions' legs and bound the monsters completely. Although the Dark Scorpions managed to cut and snap the vines in their struggles, new vines would always replace the broken ones, greatly restricting the mobility of the Dark Scorpions. Moreover, the Earthen Vines also dealt -50,000 damage every second to the Dark Scorpions, and the Skill lasted for a full 20 seconds.

This Skill was perfect against monsters without Control Removal Skills.

After the Dark Scorpions were restricted, the Blood Demon brandished its greatsword and began exterminating the Dark Scorpions. Each of its normal attacks caused around -40,000 damage, while its Skills dealt over -100,000 damage each. Meanwhile, Shi Feng also cast Flame Domain on the group of monsters.

Although Shi Feng was suppressed by the world and his Basic Attributes had decreased significantly, the Sacred Sword he wielded doubled the damage he dealt Dark Creatures.

Following which, damages over -200,000 appeared above the Dark Scorpions' heads. Moreover, the damage Flame Domain dealt also increased by 20% with every passing second. By the time Flame Domain ended, the Lord ranked Dark Scorpions had lost nearly one-third of their maximum HP.

Shi Feng then executed Lightning Edge and dealt each of the Dark Scorpions over -200,000 damage per second for five seconds.

At this time, the Heroic Spirit standing beside Shi Feng finished casting the Tier 3 Curse Star Fury. Suddenly, streaks of starlight started raining down from the sky and bombarding the Dark Scorpions. The might of the AOE Spell was stronger than even Shi Feng's Flame Domain, each wave of attacks dealing over -600,000 damage to the Dark Scorpions. Moreover, unlike normal AOE Spells, Star Fury aimed only at enemies within range. Hence, the Curse did not do any damage to the Blood Demon. In total, seven waves of starlight descended on the Dark Scorpions. By the time Star Fury ended, not only had the Dark Scorpions lost a significant amount of their HPs, but they also fell into a heavily injured state, their Basic Attributes, Defense, and combat power decreasing to a certain extent.

This turn of events allowed the Blood Demon to deal even more damage. Now, even its normal attacks inflicted around -80,000 damage on its tough opponents. Very quickly, the first Dark Scorpion fell to Shi Feng's group.

Afterward, even after Earthen Vine's duration ended, the heavily injured Dark Scorpions didn't pose much of a threat. To make the battle more efficient, Shi Feng decided to have the Blood Demon focus on only dodging the Mutated Dark Scorpion's attacks while maintaining its assault on the other Dark Scorpions. This strategy rendered the Mutated Dark Scorpion useless in the battle. The Great Lord could only watch as its subordinates got picked off one after another.

Only after the disposal of all the Lord ranked monsters did Shi Feng have the Blood Demon trade blow for blow with the Great Lord, forgoing all forms of evasion and defense. Although the Blood Demon would get poisoned and receive significant amounts of damage from doing so, there was the healing provided by the Heroic Spirit. Due to the Blood Demon's all-out offensive, the Mutated Dark Scorpion lost HP rapidly. (Boxno vel. co m)

72%... 70%... 65%...

After roughly ten minutes had passed since the battle began, Shi Feng activated Divine Providence and landed the last hit on the Mutated Dark Scorpion.

Following which, the Mutated Dark Scorpion let out an agonized screech as it collapsed before Shi Feng's feet. At the same time, the Great Lord also dropped eight items around its corpse.

The monsters here are really tough. Shi Feng breathed out a sigh of relief when he saw that the Mutated Dark Scorpion was finally dead.

Although Shi Feng had long since known that the monsters in Higher Planes were powerful, he had never imagined that the monsters of the Darkness World would be *this* powerful. Just dealing with a Level 68 Great Lord had already taken him so much effort.

If not for him having summoned a healing-type Heroic Spirit, he could have come out the loser in this battle.

With how powerful the monsters in the Darkness World were, if he came across a Grand Lord, he would most likely have no choice but to run away.

However, while dealing with the Dark Scorpions was indeed very difficult, the loot they dropped pleased Shi Feng greatly.

The nine Lord ranked Dark Scorpions had dropped a total of 37 items. Among them, fifteen were Level 60 Mysterious-Iron Equipment and eight were Level 60 Bronze Equipment. The drop-rate here was

considerably better than on the continent of God's Domain where Lord ranked monsters past Level 50 dropped only Bronze Equipment while Mysterious-Iron Equipment was dropped by only High Lords and Great Lords—and generally just one or two pieces of equipment at that.

Aside from weapons, equipment, and materials, the nine Dark Scorpions also dropped three Darkness Stone Fragments. The drop-rate for the fragments was considerably better than what Shi Feng initially expected it to be.

However, compared to the loot of the nine Dark Scorpions, the loot of the Mutated Dark Scorpion was much more attractive.

Of the eight items dropped, three were equipment: a Level 60 Secret-Silver cloth armor robe and two set pieces for the Level 60 Secret-Silver plate armor Dark Devourer Set.

Level 60 Secret-Silver Set Equipment would be considered top-notch equipment in the game when players reached Level 60. Moreover, the Dark Devourer Set was actually an eight-piece set. The set's level requirement would be lowered to Level 55 when four set pieces were gathered, and further to Level 50 if one managed to complete the set.

If players could equip Level 60 Secret-Silver Set Equipment at Level 50, just the Basic Attributes they could gain from the set alone would surpass that of Level 50 Dark-Gold Set Equipment. Not to mention, the Dark Devourer Set's other set effects were also plenty amazing. The set's two-piece set effect reduced the damage sustained from Tier 2 Spells by 40% and Spells below Tier 2 by 70%. Meanwhile, the six-piece set effect raised the wearer's Strength and Endurance by up to 30% when attacked.

If he could allow the Guild's MTs and Berserkers to equip the Dark Devourer Set, they would be practically invincible among those of the same level.

Aside from the three pieces of equipment, the Mutated Dark Scorpion also dropped two Darkness Stone Fragments. As for the remaining three items, two of them were Paralyzing Venom Potions, which could

be applied to weapons, allowing one's attacks to inflict a weakened version of the Paralyzing Venom debuff on targets. Each potion could be used three times, and each application lasted 30 minutes. Although the debuff imposed was nowhere near as strong as the Mutated Dark Scorpion's, it was still quite effective against both players and monsters.

Following which, Shi Feng took out from his bag the last item the Great Lord dropped. This item was a crystal that gave off a black-and-white glow. When he looked at the crystal, a hint of excitement flashed in his eyes.

The Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal.

It was one of the rarest loot available in the Darkness World. In fact, it was a treasure highly sought after by players belonging to the dark forces.

This was an item that would only be dropped by darkness-type mutated monsters.

Chapter 1676 – Class-change to Yin Yang Saint

Looking at the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal in his hand, Shi Feng immediately took out a Summon Guard Scroll and activated it.

The Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal contained a special kind of Power of Darkness, allowing one to gain better control over the Power of Darkness. For players belonging to the dark forces, absorbing the Mutated Dark Energy Crystal would improve their physique and Life Rating. At the same time, the Power of Darkness they could use would increase. One could say that the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal was similar to a Bloodline but with far inferior effects compared to an actual Bloodline. Even so, it was still extremely precious.

Shi Feng never thought he could obtain a Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal just by killing one Mutated Dark Scorpion.

Dark Players would definitely go crazy with envy if they learned of this matter.

In the past, countless Dark Players had visited the Darkness World to obtain Mutated Darkness Energy Crystals. However, extremely few actually got their hands on one.

Unfortunately, as Shi Feng was not a Dark Player, the crystal was not as valuable to him.

However, there was another use for the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal—which was also considered by players as one of the most wasteful methods of using Mutated Energy Crystals like the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal—and that was to allow Personal Guards to absorb its power. Letting a Personal Guard absorb the power of a Mutated Energy Crystal gave the said Personal Guard an opportunity to awaken and assimilate that power. However, the chances of success were below 10%. In contrast, if players were to absorb the power of a Mutated Energy Crystal, they were sure to obtain that power.

In the past, almost no player would waste the Mutated Energy Crystals they obtained on their Personal Guards.

Of course, there were always exceptions, such as righteous players who refused to trade with Dark Players no matter what. In such rare occasions, players would choose to give the Mutated Energy Crystal to their Personal Guards instead and gamble on the small chance of success. Meanwhile, one of these exceptions had won their gamble, allowing their Fine-Gold Personal Guard to obtain the Power of Fire. The result of this successful assimilation was a massive rise in combat power for the said Personal Guard. Afterward, the Fine-Gold Personal Guard had even managed to get promoted to Tier 5.

Normally, only Dark-Gold Guards had a chance to reach Tier 5 in God's Domain. Meanwhile, after getting promoted to Tier 5, the evolved Fine-Gold Guard's combat power was even close to rivaling that of Tier 5 Dark-Gold Guards.

Back then, this incident had caused a huge commotion throughout the entire God's Domain. Spending a Mutated Energy Crystal to obtain a Tier 5 Personal Guard was a very profitable trade. After all, most players that absorbed a Mutated Energy Crystal couldn't even reach Tier 5. Moreover, a Tier 5 Personal Guard was much stronger than a Tier 5 player. The only downside was the difficulty of resurrecting Personal Guards that were killed. Due to this incident, the various superpowers had also reconsidered their opinions on spending Mutated Energy Crystals on Personal Guards.

Meanwhile, since the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal was utterly useless to Shi Feng, he might as well gamble it on one of his Personal Guards.

After Shi Feng completed the incantation for the Summon Guard Scroll, a summoning magic array manifested before him. A moment later, the lithe figure of a woman appeared in it. This woman was none other than Anna, whom he had not seen for quite some time now.

At this point, Anna had already reached Level 80. Her leveling speed was simply astonishing; Shi Feng could not help but acknowledge the questing efficiency of an Epic Personal Guard. Her strength had improved considerably as well. Right now, even the Level 80, Tier 3 Blood Demon was most likely no match for her.

However, as this place was the Darkness World, as soon as Anna appeared, a powerful force started suppressing her, causing her Basic Attributes to plummet. When her Basic Attributes settled, her overall combat power was no longer a match for the Tier 3 Blood Demon.

Not wanting to waste time, Shi Feng immediately passed the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal to Anna. At the sight of the crystal, Anna's eyes glowed with great interest and excitement.

Without needing Shi Feng to do anything, Anna started writing divine runes and chanting an incantation.

NPCs were much more proficient at utilizing Mutated Energy Crystals than players were. Hence, NPCs were capable of using every type of Mutated Energy Crystal available. Players, on the other hand, could only absorb Mutated Energy Crystals that were suitable for their alignment and class.

Suddenly, a gigantic, golden magic array appeared beneath Anna's feet.

Onefold... Twofold... Threefold...

The appearance of the magic array lit up the surrounding darkness brightly.

After Anna was done casting the threefold magic array, she placed the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal at its center. Suddenly, the surrounding Power of Darkness started surging towards the magic array, the massive flow of energy prompting Shi Feng to step back in fright.

As the magic array collected more Power of Darkness, the aura it exuded also steadily strengthened. At some point, the aura grew so overwhelming that Shi Feng started to feel stifled. Even the monsters over 500 yards away unconsciously distanced themselves from the magic array.

After the process continued for five long seconds, the magic array's horrific aura began dissipating. The gathered Power of Darkness then started flowing into Anna's body under the magic array's guidance.

In the next moment, pitch-black runes appeared on Anna's body. As the number of runes increased, the feeling Anna gave off underwent a heaven-defying change.

If in the past, Anna was an Angel that represented the light, then now, she was a Fallen Angel that represented darkness.

After runes covered Anna's entire body, she started giving off an unprecedented pressure. At this moment, Shi Feng felt as if he was standing before Serena, the Fallen Angel guarding the World Summit, again. If Anna willed it, she could easily kill Tier 3 and Tier 4 existences with a wave of her hand right now.

However, the horrific pressure lasted for only one second, then vanished without a trace. At the same time, the threefold magic array Anna stood on also started disappearing into the void. As for Anna herself, she had reverted to her original state. The only differences now were a dark purple mark at the center of her forehead and a hint of coldness in her aura.

"Did you succeed?" Shi Feng could not help but ask curiously as he eyed Anna, who looked as she normally did.

In the past, he had heard that a huge commotion would arise whenever Personal Guards used Mutated Energy Crystals. However, those commotions were far from being as massive as the one that just occurred. In fact, even the casting of a Tier 5 Spell wouldn't cause such a massive disturbance.

"Lord Count, it should be a success?" Anna said as she looked at herself, uncertainty in her tone.

Shi Feng could not help but fall speechless at Anna's reply. Immediately, he called out Anna's Attribute Panel.

...

[Anna] (Ye Feng's Personal Guard)

Class: Tier 2 Peak Class, Yin Yang Saint

Level 80

Loyalty: 97

Growth Potential: 113

...

Shi Feng was at a loss for words as he looked at the updated values in Anna's Attribute Panel.

He had never imagined that Anna would not only gain control over the Power of Darkness but also class-change into a Yin Yang Saint, a peak class. Moreover, her Growth Potential had even risen from 105 to 113 points.

Anna had actually improved that much just by using one Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal. This was definitely a massive jackpot.

After all, every point increased in Growth Potential would allow a Personal Guard to gain considerably more Attribute Points with each level up. Now that Anna had eight more points in Growth Potential, she would no doubt become an even more terrifying existence in the future.

Not to mention, Anna had even class-changed into a Yin Yang Saint.

In God's Domain, Class Legacies held much greater importance to NPCs than to players. In a situation where both sides were of the same level and tier, an NPC with a basic class had almost no chance of defeating an NPC with an advanced class, and likewise an NPC with an advanced class had no chance of defeating an NPC with a peak class.

After Shi Feng was done looking at the summary of Anna's Attribute Panel, he could not help but click to inspect her specific Attributes.

Is she a monster? Shi Feng involuntarily gaped in shock when he saw Anna's Basic Attributes.

Chapter 1677 – Anna's Power

Shi Feng was dazed for a long moment after seeing Anna's Basic Attributes.

If other players saw Anna's statistics, they'd be surprised by how high the values were at most, but Shi Feng knew the implication these Attributes had.

A normal Level 80, Tier 2 magical class NPC would only have around 3,600 Intelligence, which was already far more than what magical class players would have at Level 80, Tier 2. Even if a Level 80 player

were fully geared in Epic Equipment, they wouldn't have such a high Attribute since every Personal Guard used Epic Weapons and Equipment. Even the strongest magical class Personal Guard Shi Feng had heard of in the past had only commanded 4,200 Intelligence after reaching Level 80, Tier 2.

Although there was only a 600 point difference, the difference in magic damage and maximum Mana would be massive.

In God's Domain, the power of a Spell heavily depended on the caster's Intelligence. For example, if a Tier 1 player and a Tier 6 player cast the same Tier 1 Spell, the power difference would be like heaven and earth. The outcome was due to the difference in their Attributes. Meanwhile, high-tiered Spells and Skills only allowed one to display more of their raw power.

Previously, Anna's Intelligence had only risen to 4,346, and she had barely been able to contend with ordinary Great Lords of the same level in terms of raw magic damage. However, if she used the powerful Skills in her arsenal, she could have easily overwhelmed a Great Lord of the same level.

Now, Anna's Intelligence had risen to 5,031 points. With such high Intelligence, she could overwhelm Great Lords with ordinary Tier 2 Spells.

Now, I won't have to worry about needing sufficient help in the Darkness World. Looking at Anna, Shi Feng could tell that she could easily stomp out Great Lords of the same level.

Aside from the improvements they granted players and NPCs, Mutated Darkness Energy Crystals would force the Darkness World to recognize their users. With this recognition, the world would no longer consider them an intruder and suppress them.

This was why Dark Players desired Mutated Darkness Energy Crystals. Although Dark Players were members of the dark forces and contained a small amount of Power of Darkness within, the Darkness World still considered them trespassers. The world would still suppress them, although the suppression wouldn't be as severe due to the Power of Darkness they contained. However, if they absorbed a

Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal, they could proceed without any suppression. They could then explore the Darkness World as if they were in their element.

Now that Anna had absorbed the Mutated Darkness Energy Crystal, she, too, had been recognized by the Darkness World. The world would accept her as one of its own, and she'd be able to exhibit all of her strength.

Shi Feng then began his search for the next group of monsters.

Although resources within the Darkness World were abundant, this world didn't have as many monsters as the continent of God's Domain. If the Darkness World's monsters moved in large groups as they did on the continent of God's Domain, players would have no hope of surviving here.

Now that Shi Feng had the powerful support Anna offered, hunting down monsters like the Dark Scorpions was a waste of time. He needed to find stronger monsters to allow Anna to display her full potential.

After searching for around 30 minutes, Shi Feng finally found a pack of Two-headed Dark Wolves resting at the foot of a mountain. There were twelve Dark Wolves in total, including one Grand Lord and eleven Lords. The Lord ranked wolves were around four meters tall, while the Grand Lord was double that size. Aside from looking like a miniature mountain, the Grand Lord ranked Dark Wolf gave off an intense pressure.

...

[Two-headed Dark Wolf] (Dark Creature, Lord)

Level 67

HP 21,000,000/21,000,000

[Two-headed Dark Wolf King] (Dark Creature, Grand Lord)

Level 70

HP 95,000,000/95,000,000

...

Challenging a Grand Lord in the Darkness World was very dangerous, but even if Shi Feng weren't a match for the monster, he was confident that he could retreat safely if needed. If he weren't, and he settled for weaker monsters, he wouldn't be able to acquire then 100 Darkness Stones he needed even after ten solid days of grinding.

The Darkness World's Grand Lords had a chance of dropping complete Darkness Stones. On the other hand, only Mythic rank or above darkness-type monsters would drop the stones on the God's Domain continent. That being said, Grand Lords in this world had a slightly lower chance of dropping them.

However, he could use Icarus's Heart to compensate for the low drop-rate. As long as the Grand Lords had a chance of dropping the stones, it was worth a try.

Shi Feng had only planned to challenge Grand Lords after he could summon three Demons with the Bible of Darkness. He'd also be able to use another Primordial Scroll in two hours. With five Tier 3 monsters and a healer, he had a considerably good chance of defeating the Grand Lords. At worst, he could always suppress his opponents with the Ring of Gospel.

But now that he had a monster of a Personal Guard like Anna, there was no need to wait.

"Alright, let's begin!" Shi Feng commanded once everyone was in position.

Anna instantly began to write divine runes, chanting an incantation at the same time.

A short moment later, ten Level 80 Lord ranked Rock Guardians formed before Anna. A Level 80 Great Lord ranked Golden Giant had joined them. Due to the significant boost to Anna's Intelligence, her summoned creatures had also received a boost to their Attributes. The summoned creatures were 15% stronger than they had been previously, but Anna wasn't done yet. Following which, she cast Magic Strengthening, further increasing the Rock Guardians and Golden Giant's Basic Attributes.

In the blink of an eye, Shi Feng had a powerful monster army.

As the eleven summoned creatures prepared to charge, the old man beside Shi Feng cast enhancement buffs on them as well, strengthening the summoned creatures even further.

"Go!" Shi Feng commanded once the preparations were complete.

The Golden Giant and Blood Demon led the charge with the ten Rock Guardians closely behind them. When the group of summoned creatures came within 200 yards of the Dark Wolf pack, the Dark Wolves howled with anger.

The Two-headed Dark Wolf King stood and glared at the Golden Giant and Blood Demon. Emanating a low growl, it pushed its paws against the ground and shot forward.

The Dark Wolf King was as fast as lightning, leaving a trail of afterimages and powerful gales of wind. The Dark Wolf King arrived before the Golden Giant almost instantly, smacking the Great Lord with one of its front paws.

Peng!

Under Anna's control, the Golden Giant raised its arms to protect itself. When the Dark Wolf King's paw collided with the Golden Giant's arms, the ground beneath the summoned Great Lord cracked and shattered, and the Golden Giant sunk into the ground. The Dark Wolf King's Strength was higher than Shi Feng had expected, and despite blocking the attack, the Golden Giant had lost over 100,000 HP.

Realizing that its first attack had failed to get rid of its target, the Dark Wolf King turned and swiped its tail at the Golden Giant. As the Wolf King's bushy tail moved, Power of Darkness gathered around it, turning the harmless-looking tail into a sharp blade that sliced at the Golden Giant.

Tier 2 Skill, Darkness Blade.

When the attack landed, the impact sent the Golden Giant flying over 20 yards back.

Following which, a damage of over -2,300,000 appeared above the Golden Giant's head. The Dark Wolf King's Strength was on an entirely different level than the Grand Lords on God's Domain's continent.

Fortunately, although the two attacks dealt a lot of damage, the Golden Giant had 55,000,000 HP. Losing a little over two million HP was nothing. With the Primordial Heroic Spirit healing it from a safe distance, the Golden Giant could definitely withstand the Dark Wolf King's attacks.

In contrast, the Blood Demon and ten Rock Giants completely overwhelmed the eleven Two-headed Dark Wolves that had followed their alpha. Even without any healing, the Rock Giants could dominate the Dark Wolves in a one-on-one fight. Furthermore, they had the help of the Tier 3 Blood Demon.

Naturally, Anna didn't sit idle. After becoming a Yin Yang Saint, she had gained more than just Summoning Skills. She now had powerful attack Spells in her arsenal.

Anna cast Holy Light Spear, a Tier 2 light-type Spell, launching 18 holy spears at the Dark Wolf pack. Each spear carried nearly as much Strength as a Tier 3 Great Lord of the same level. Moreover, the holy spears dealt an additional 50% damage to Dark Creatures.

When the holy spears found their marks, the Dark Wolves cried in agony as damages of over -400,000 appeared above their heads.

In less than ten minutes, Shi Feng's team had wiped out the eleven Lord ranked Two-headed Dark Wolves, the creatures decorating the ground with loot upon their deaths. Now, only the Two-headed Dark Wolf King remained, still fighting the Golden Giant.

However, the Golden Giant looked miserable. Despite the Heroic Spirit's constant healing, the Great Lord's HP continued to decrease. Shi Feng had even been forced to activate Life Domain halfway through the battle to keep the summoned creature standing.

Once the eleven Lord ranked Dark Wolves had been dealt with, Anna began to chant a long incantation, writing many lines of divine runes in the air before her.

Suddenly, a gigantic, silver, twofold magic array appeared beneath Anna's feet. In response, a towering pillar of light rose from the ground beneath the Dark Wolf King's feet, enveloping the Boss. Countless chains then appeared from the void and bound the lupine Grand Lord. Despite the Dark Wolf King's desperate struggle, it couldn't break free. A moment later, the Dark Wolf King released a pained wail as its massive body began to shrink.

Tier 3 Spell, Chains of Light!

Chapter 1678 – Power to Transcend Tiers

She's capable of using Spells higher than her tier? Shi Feng was at a loss as he stared at the towering light pillar. Is this the power of a peak class?

In God's Domain, whether they be players, NPCs, or monsters, all existences could generally only learn and use Skills or Spells at their tier or lower. The strongest Skills and Spells they could use were Taboo Skills and Curses.

Yet, Anna had just cast a bona fide Tier 3 Spell despite only being Tier 2 herself. Shi Feng had never heard of anything like this before.

Of course, one reason for his ignorance was that he had only ever heard of Personal Guards obtaining advanced classes. Even after ten years in God's Domain, he had never heard of a Personal Guard acquiring a peak class as Anna had.

Due to the effects of Chains of Light, the Two-headed Dark Wolf King, which had been over nine meters tall, had shrunk to six meters in height. The chains around its form also greatly limited its movement. This allowed the Golden Giant to block every one of the Grand Lord's attacks.

Now, the Golden Giant only lost around 80,000 HP after it received one of the Dark Wolf King's attacks. It was clear that the Dark Wolf King's Strength had decreased considerably. After the decrease, it was only as powerful as an ordinary Grand Lord on the continent of God's Domain. The Heroic Spirit's healing was now more than enough to keep the Golden Giant alive.

After Anna had cast Chains of Light, she proceeded to write another series of divine runes.

Under Anna's control, the ten Rock Guardians surrounded the Dark Wolf King. The Rock Giants then transformed into ten stone pillars, and after Anna finished over two dozen lines of divine runes, she lightly tapped the but of her staff against the ground.

Golden divine runes began to surface on the ten stone pillars, releasing arcs of golden electricity that lined the pillars and created a magic barrier around the Dark Wolf King.

The Dark Wolf King's Basic Attributes began to decrease rapidly.

The Chains of Light had merely weakened the Dark Wolf King's Strength and mobility, but the golden magic barrier suppressed all aspects of the Boss. In the blink of an eye, the Dark Wolf King's maximum HP had fallen by 30%. This magic barrier could even rival a top-tier Intermediate Magic Array.

After seeing this, Shi Feng finally understood why there was such a huge difference between the strength of NPCs' classes. It wasn't just a matter of higher Basic attributes, but a matter of superior Spells and Skills.

Even without the Blood Demon and Heroic Spirit, Shi Feng was confident he could defeat a Level 70 Grand Lord with Anna's help alone. If the party had a strong healer, Anna could even whittle down the Dark Wolf King without too much exertion.

This will save me plenty of Primordial Scrolls. As Shi Feng watched the Two-headed Dark Wolf King, whose Attributes had already fallen below a Grand Lord's standard, he realized that he wouldn't have to rely on Primordial Scrolls to grind in the Darkness World anymore.

The Heroic Spirits players summoned with Primordial Scrolls could only exist for 12 hours. Meanwhile, Shi Feng only had 12 of these scrolls. Even if he used them efficiently, they would only last him for several days. With Anna's help, though, he could grind in the Darkness World for much longer.

Due to the magic barrier, the Golden Giant had a much easier time dealing with the Dark Wolf King. The Great Lord even began to trade blows with the Grand Lord, increasing the party's overall DPS.

After including the Blood Demon, Anna, and Shi Feng's attacks, the Dark Wolf King's HP began to deplete steadily. Although the Grand Lord's battle recovery and high Defense slowed their progress, it was only a matter of time before the Dark Wolf King died.

90%... 85%... 80%...

When the Two-headed Dark Wolf King's HP fell to 20%, it released a sudden, angry howl. Its two-headed body then split down the middle, each head taking on its own form.

Division? Shi Feng's expression darkened when he saw the two Dark Wolf Kings.

Bosses that had grasped Doppelganger Skills in God's Domain were extremely difficult to defeat. Unfortunately, slaying Bosses that had grasped Division Skills was even harder. With Doppelganger Skills, a Boss's main body and its doppelganger shared HP. If either form were killed, regardless of whether or not players slew the main body, both would die. However, Bosses with Division Skills were a different story. Each copy had its own, independent HP. This essentially meant that players had to face two Bosses simultaneously.

Moreover, when a Boss used a Division Skill, all debuffs on the Boss would be removed.

In the next moment, the Chains of Light originally binding the Two-headed Dark Wolf King vanished. The two Dark Wolf Kings then revealed a sinister grin as they looked at Shi Feng's group, their expressions seemingly saying: You're dead meat now.

The two Dark Wolf Kings immediately pounced on the Golden Giant and the Blood Demon. Gathering Power of Darkness in their paws, they smacked their respective targets.

Both the Golden Giant and the Blood Demon attempted to block the incoming attacks, but just as they seemed to succeed, the Dark Wolf Kings' paws transformed into shadows, piercing the Elemental and Demon's defenses. The attacks struck their targets, and both the Golden Giant and the Blood Demon were thrown over 20 yards away, a damage exceeding -2,000,000 appearing above each of their heads.

Before the two summoned creatures could regain their footing, the two Dark Wolf Kings pounced again, launching the same attacks. The prior scene replayed, with the Golden Giant and the Blood Demon flying backward and losing over 2,000,000 HP each.

As expected of a Grand Lord in the Darkness World. In addition to a Division Skill, it has an unblockable offensive Skill. This Boss could even annihilate a 20-man team of Tier 2 experts of the same level. Despite realizing the seriousness of the summoned creatures' situation, Shi Feng remained unfazed. Instead, he calmly told Anna, "Let's see what you've got."

Nodding, Anna's aura abruptly changed. The dark purple mark on her forehead disappeared, transforming into runes that covered her body.

After Anna obtained a peak class, she had learned two Overtier Spells and one Epic ranked Skill. Although she had displayed the Tier 3 Spell, Chains of Light, she had yet to reveal her other Overtier Spell and Epic Skill.

The move Anna had just used was none other than the Epic Skill, Yin Yang Power. Not only did Anna's Basic Attributes soar under the Skill's power, but the strength of her light- and darkness-type Skills and Spells would also rise by one tier, to a maximum of Tier 4. This was the Berserk Skill unique to Peak Legacies.

Anna's Tier 2 Spells and Skills already had the power to rival Tier 3 attacks, but now her attacks were even more powerful than a Grand Lord's of the same level. Furthermore, while Yin Yang Power was in effect, all of her Spells and Skills would increase by one Tier.

It was by no means an exaggeration to consider Anna a Level 80, Tier 3 NPC.

Anna proceeded to cast the Tier 2 Spell, Holy Light Spear once more, but unlike her previous use, the number of holy spears she summoned had doubled to 36. Moreover, each spear carried more power than before.

Under Anna's control, the holy spears transformed into streaks of white light that bombarded the two Dark Wolf Kings.

While the two Dark Wolf Kings happily bullied the Golden Giant and Blood Demon, the holy spears appeared before them. Even with the Dark Wolf Kings' incredible reaction speeds, they only blocked half of the incoming spears; the rest of the shining weapons found their marks. When the holy spears met the Dark Wolf Kings' tough fur, the two Grand Lords howled in pain.

Each spear dealt over -600,000 damage...

By the time the two Dark Wolf Kings had recovered from the holy spear's bombardment, Anna had finished casting the Tier 2 Spell, Feathers of Light. Suddenly, countless white, immaculate feathers descended from the sky, decorating the area around the two Grand Lords.

Anna, who stood outside of the Rock Giants' magic barrier, grabbed at a feather that had fallen before her. She then gave the feather a gentle pinch.

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

The hundreds of immaculate feathers surrounding the two Dark Wolf Kings began to explode, one after another. Although each feather's explosion was not particularly powerful and only devoured a few tens of thousands of the Grand Lords' HPs, the total accumulated damage was frightening.

After a short moment, the two Dark Wolf Kings, who had only held on by a small amount of HP, fell to Anna's Spell. Anna had killed the two Dark Wolf Kings so quickly that Shi Feng hadn't even had enough time to use Divine Providence and land the finishing blow...

Chapter 1679 – Ancient Rock City’s Shocking Transformation

Seeing the corpses of the divided Two-headed Dark Wolf King reaffirmed Anna’s Strength for Shi Feng.

Although light-type Spells had striking effects against Dark Creatures, they shouldn’t allow a Level 80, Tier 2 NPC to overwhelm the Two-headed Dark Wolf King to this extent. Not even ordinary Tier 3 NPCs of the same level were capable of such a feat.

The only downside to Anna’s Yin Yang Power was its 100-second duration and a long 6-hour Cooldown. If she could use this Berserk Skill frequently, she could massacre one Level 70 Grand Lord after another.

When the Two-headed Dark Wolf King had died, it had dropped a pile of loot before them. It had also granted both Shi Feng and Anna a large amount of EXP. Although Shi Feng’s EXP gain in the Darkness World had been drastically reduced, his experience bar still increased by a noticeable amount. As for Anna, although her EXP gain was no longer affected, the EXP she had gained from killing the Level 70 Two-headed Dark Wolf King was insignificant compared to how much she needed to level up since she had already reached Level 80.

As expected of one of the Darkness World’s Grand Lords. Its loot is way better than an ordinary Grand Lord’s. Shi Feng couldn’t help his surprise as he gazed at the items before him.

Past Level 50, Grand Lords generally only dropped ten or so items. Moreover, the majority of the loot would even be materials, and one would be lucky if they got three or four pieces of equipment, even the best of which would be Secret-Silver rank.

However, the Two-headed Dark Wolf King had dropped over 20 items. Although the majority of the loot was still materials, the Boss had dropped five pieces of equipment. Three of the pieces were Level 60

Secret-Silver Equipment, including one pair of boots belonging to the Level 60 Secret-Silver ranked Dark Devourer Set. The last two pieces were Level 60 Fine-Gold Equipment, one of which was a set piece for the Level 60 Fine-Gold ranked Fantasy Demon Set. Although the Fantasy Demon Set was only a six-piece set, players could equip the set at Level 55 instead of Level 60 once they had gathered four pieces. If the full set were given to a Level 55 magical-class player, that player would wipe the floor with other magical-class players of the same level. Only players with multiple Epic Weapons and Equipment would likely be able to contend with them.

Two Master ranked potions had also dropped. Among them, one was the Mana Awakening Potion. It was a rare berserk potion that increased players' Spell effects by 200% for 30 seconds. The other potion was a Resuscitation Potion. If players consumed the potion after resurrecting, they could recover a portion of the lost EXP. These two potions had easily sold for over 100 Gold each on the market in the past.

In addition, the Two-headed Dark Wolf King had dropped a Darkness Stone and three Darkness Stone Fragments.

However, what surprised Shi Feng most was a translucent crystal ball.

The Detection Crystal Ball!

This was a top-tier item for outdoor explorations. It was particularly useful at night, when visibility was poor. The Detection Crystal Ball could be used to detect all monsters within a certain range, which was determined by the Detection Crystal Ball's rank. A Bronze Detection Crystal Ball had a range of 500 yards, while Mysterious-Iron ranked crystal balls could detect enemies within 700 yards, and Secret-Silver ranked ones could reach 1,000 yards. It allowed players to avoid monster ambushes.

The Detection Crystal Ball the Wolf King had dropped was Fine-Gold rank, with a range of 1,500 yards. Not only could this item's detection reach further than the Blood Demon's vision, but it could also spot

every monster within that range. It did not matter even if the monsters were camouflaged or hidden behind terrain. Unfortunately, it did cost one Magic Crystal to operate per hour.

Ordinary players might not be willing to pay this price, but it wasn't an issue for Shi Feng, and it would be of great help as he explored the Darkness World.

There weren't as many monsters in the Darkness World as there were on the continent of God's Domain, making them troublesome to find. Since Shi Feng was looking for specific targets, his hunt was even more time-consuming. With the Detection Crystal Ball, however, he could save plenty of time and avoid unnecessary battles.

This will save me a ton of time. Shi Feng smiled. Without hesitation, he spent one Magic Crystal to activate the Detection Crystal Ball and looked for his next target.

Although Anna wouldn't be able to use her Berserk Skill again for a short time, Shi Feng had summoned another Tier 3 Demon to assist him as soon as the Demon Summoning Skill's Cooldown had ended. With the extra Tier 3 Demon, his party could slowly whittle down another Level 70 Grand Lord even without the Personal Guard's Berserk Skill.

In such a way, Shi Feng continued to hunt Grand Lords in the Darkness World. As for his Stamina and Concentration recovery, Shi Feng had used the Life Essence he had accumulated with the Blood Refining Crystal to remain battle-ready. In addition, every monster he killed in the Darkness World granted varying amounts of Blood Energy, which he could use to create more Life Essence.

In the end, Shi Feng grinded monsters for a full day without rest. With the help of Divine Providence, he had collected 28 Darkness Stones and 200-plus Darkness Stone Fragments during that time. At this rate, he should be able to collect 100 Darkness Stones in no time. In addition, he had collected over 100 pieces of Level 60 Secret-Silver and Fine-Gold Weapons and Equipment. He also managed to complete one Dark Devourer Set and now had four set pieces of the Fantasy Demon Set, only missing the helmet and gloves.

Although Shi Feng was in high spirits and more than eager to continue his grind, his many years of experience in God's Domain had taught him that it was important to balance work and rest properly. Although the Life Essence replenished his Stamina and Concentration, it was more of a stimulant than a replacement for actual rest. If he wanted to rest his mind, he had to log out of the game.

After returning to reality, Shi Feng planned to see to his basic training, as usual, maintaining his physical fitness. He then planned to make the necessary arrangements to expand the Zero Wing Workshop.

Now that the Zero Wing Guild was on the right track to becoming a superpower, and had acquired a city of its own, the Guild would only grow as it moved forward. Naturally, the Guild's management would become more complex. He needed more personnel to manage Zero Wing, and so, he needed to expand his Workshop and recruit more internal members.

But before Shi Feng could leave his room, the quantum watch on his wrist, which was connected to his virtual gaming cabin, rang. The display on his watch showed that the caller was Aqua Rose.

"Guild Leader, I finally got through to you," Aqua Rose said as soon as the call connected, sounding a little rushed.

"Has something happened to the Guild?" Shi Feng asked curiously.

"Something big has happened," Aqua Rose stated. "While you were grinding in the Darkness World, Heaven's Burial has been trying desperately to fend off the various superpowers surrounding it. It has even mobilized countless Evil Demons and Evil Beasts, but midway through the siege, one of the superpowers mobilized powerful siege weapons and a large number of NPC mercenaries. The battle continued for several more hours, and after suffering immense casualties, the various superpowers finally broke past Ancient Rock City's walls and charged into the City Lord's Mansion."

“So, Ancient Rock City has been taken?” Shi Feng could not help but smile. He had destroyed Ancient Rock City’s defensive magic arrays precisely so that he could cut off one of Heaven’s Burial’s revenue sources. If another power claimed Ancient Rock City, it was definitely worth celebrating for Zero Wing.

“No,” Aqua Rose said, shaking her head.

“No? Haven’t they broken into the City Lord’s Mansion? With the various superpowers’ strength, they should have no issues getting to the City Lord’s Tablet even if there are Evil Demons in the building.” Aqua Rose’s reply left Shi Feng slightly confused.

The various superpowers were recognized as such due to the large number of experts they employed. While Refinement Realm experts couldn’t do much in a war involving tens of thousands of players, they could exhibit tremendous combat power in compact fights with a limited number of opponents. Even if Level 100 NPC soldiers were stationed inside the City Lord’s Mansion, those NPCs wouldn’t be able to stop every Refinement Realm expert from reaching the City Lord’s Tablet.

“The various superpowers have stormed the City Lord’s Mansion, but some Tier 4 NPC appeared suddenly and transformed Ancient Rock City into an Evil Demon nest. Not only has the city become a forbidden land for players, but the Evil Beasts and Demons are also expanding their influence and capturing areas around Ancient Rock City. More Evil Demons and Evil Beasts are joining the force by the minute. Just some time ago, we received a report stating that the other Guilds’ Towns in the Orc Empire have fallen to these Evil Demons.

“According to our scouts, the Evil Demon army is spreading towards Star-Moon Kingdom’s borders. By the looks of it, Zero Wing city is the army’s target...”

“A Tier 4 NPC appeared in Ancient Rock City? And the NPC transformed the city into an Evil Demon nest? How is that possible?” Shi Feng was stunned after listening to Aqua Rose’s report. Suddenly, a possibility came to mind, and he could not help but ask, “Do you have the latest image of Ancient Rock City?”

“Yes, I’ll send it now.” Aqua Rose nodded.

The fact that Ancient Rock City had become an Evil Demon nest had frustrated the various superpowers. Hence, they had sent plenty of scouts to investigate Ancient Rock City’s current state in the hopes of wresting back control of the city. Meanwhile, Zero Wing had collected quite a bit of information from those superpowers.

Following which, Shi Feng entered his virtual gaming cabin again and logged into his Rest Space.

He could still make contact with players in God’s Domain from within the Rest Space.

Once he had logged in, Shi Feng noticed the pictures of Ancient Rock City Aqua Rose had sent. In addition to that, she had sent video recordings and statistics reports about the current forces inside the city.

What a terrifying number. Shi Feng was shocked as he watched the videos.

Evil Demons and Evil Beasts crowded Ancient Rock City, both on its walls and inside the city itself. Several million monsters had taken control of the city, far more than any single player could control.

Based on the information the various superpowers had gathered, there should be roughly 3,000,000 Evil Demons and Evil Beasts defending Ancient Rock City. Moreover, this number continued to grow as time passed.

However, the number of monsters within the city wasn't the most important aspect. It was these monsters' levels!

The lowest-leveled monster present in the city was Level 50, while the higher-leveled ones had reached Level 80. Moreover, there were Mythic ranked Evil Beasts and Evil Demons outside of the city. Based on current reports, there should be more than ten Mythic ranked Evil Beasts and Evil Demons protecting Ancient Rock City.

There was also a Level 80, Tier 4 NPC stationed in the city. This NPC was the true Grim Reaper to players due to its Tier 4 Domain Skill. Based on the reports, hostile players that tried to approach this Tier 4 NPC would be transformed into Evil Demons before they could get near the NPC...

Sure enough... Shi Feng frowned as he gazed at the towering temple in the heart of Ancient Rock City. *They sure are ruthless. They actually built a branch of the Evil God's Temple in Ancient Rock City!*

The only way to transform a city into an Evil Demon nest was to create an Evil God's Temple branch temple in the city. If a branch temple descended, one could instantly teleport all of the Evil Beasts and Demons under their command to the temple, essentially fortifying the city with an army.

However, it was extremely difficult to get a branch temple to descend. First, the descent's target must not have any defensive magic arrays, and second, one would need a large number of precious materials and souls.

Once a branch temple descended, the occupied city would crumble.

Although it was only a branch temple, the density of the Evil Energy it exuded would be horrific. This Evil Energy would corrupt the land the branch temple occupied, and only a Tier 5 High Priest or above would be able to cleanse the corrupted land. If the land remained corrupt, ordinary players wouldn't be able to survive there.

Now that a branch temple had descended, Ancient Rock City had been undoubtedly crippled. The city's fate as an Evil Demon nest was sealed. Becoming a Guild City again was practically impossible.

"Guild Leader, what should we do? The Evil Demon and Evil Beast armies are clearly marching towards Zero Wing City. Even if we petition the kingdom's armies to suppress these monsters at the border, there are too many of them. In addition, more Evil Beasts and Evil Demons join the march as time passes. On the off chance that the kingdom's armies fail to hold off these monsters and they reach Zero Wing City, we'll definitely be in trouble," Aqua Rose expressed her concern.

If such a frightening number of Evil Beasts and Evil Demons assaulted Zero Wing City, it would only be a matter of time before the city fell even if it had a stronger defensive magic array than Stone Forest Town.

Mythic ranked creatures marched alongside the Evil Beasts and Demons towards Zero Wing City, after all. Even if Zero Wing City's defensive magic array could stop those monsters' attacks, there was a limit to how long the magic array could hold. Once it broke, the city's players would quickly follow.

If they did not think of a plan to stop the monster army now, Zero Wing City would be finished.

Shi Feng felt a headache brew as he looked at the dense swarm of Evil Demons and Evil Beasts.

He had never thought that Beast Emperor and Heaven's Burial had grown so powerful that they could summon a branch temple. It wasn't exactly a simple task, and the price of doing so was unimaginable.

This was because the branch temple was meant to hide the main temple. If Beast Emperor and Heaven's Burial had tried to mobilize their monster armies from within Star-Moon Kingdom, even if Shi Feng had sat back and done nothing, the kingdom's NPCs would discover the Evil God's Temple within Star-Moon Kingdom immediately. At that time, the kingdom would doubtlessly dispatch its armies to exterminate the temple.

But a branch temple was a different story. Since Beast Emperor and Heaven's Burial teleported their monsters from the main temple to the branch temple, it was impossible to track down the main temple before these armies mobilized within the kingdom. Meanwhile, even if the branch temple were destroyed, the Evil Demon and Evil Beast armies were already outside of Star-Moon Kingdom. They would not teleport back to the main temple due to the branch temple's destruction.

"Notify Snow and have her organize the Guild's experts to coordinate with the kingdom's armies immediately; we need to stop as much of that monster army as possible. Also, figure out a way to collect as many Magic Crystals as possible. Before I return, have everyone put as much distance as possible between them and the monster army. That includes other Guilds' members and independent players. Make sure they don't become sacrifices for that army," Shi Feng ordered after giving the matter some thought.

The Evil God's Temple had been a constant thorn in the side for God's Domain's various major powers in the past. The main reason for this the temple members' ability to create Evil Beasts and Demons through their defeated opponents. If a force weren't strong enough and tried to challenge the Evil Beasts and Evil Demons, they'd only become food for those monsters. There were two methods to keep its forces from spreading when the Evil God's Temple plagued a country. The first was to exterminate every Evil Beast and Demon found with overwhelming strength, while the second was to destroy the main temple.

In reality, the Evil God's Temples across the continent of God's Domain served as Evil Energy transfer devices. When activated, the Evil God's Temples would send Evil Energy throughout the continent, creating a suitable environment for its Evil Beasts and Demons. As long as one destroyed the activated Evil God's Temple, they could stop the transfer of Evil Energy. After losing its source, the Evil Energy that

had spread would gradually thin until the environment became hostile for Evil Beasts and Demons once again. Some of the weaker monsters might even die as a result, while the stronger monsters would grow weaker and become easier to defeat.

However, the whereabouts of Star-Moon Kingdom's Evil God's Temple remained unknown, and destroying the heavily-guarded branch temple in the Orc Empire was impossible. The only hope of fending off the monster army that marched towards Zero Wing City was to send expert players to work alongside the NPC armies, whittling away as many of the Evil Beasts and Demons as possible. The monster army could only grow if it had sacrifices; it couldn't bolster its numbers without a cost.

"Understood. I'll notify Snow right away." Aqua Rose nodded before disconnecting the call.

Not daring to waste time, Shi Feng immediately logged back into God's Domain and continued to grind for Darkness Stones.

...

Meanwhile, over 500,000 players had gathered in a forest at the border of Stone Forest Town's map. Among them, over 100,000 wore Heaven's Burial's Guild Emblem. Every one of these players was Level 47 and above, and they were all very well equipped. However, every one of these players wore tense expressions.

"Beast Emperor, I've prepared the 400,000 players you've asked for! I hope that you will fulfill your promise!" Singular Burial, who stood atop a hillside, told the middle-aged man beside him.

The middle-aged man had ashen skin covered in runes. The man also wielded a staff made of pitch-black jade. This man was none other than Beast Emperor. However, he was no longer covered in bandages.

“Relax. When have I ever broken a promise to you?” Beast Emperor laughed. Turning his sight towards the player army at the bottom of the hill, he commanded, “Alright, let’s begin!”

Chapter 1681 – Brute Force

After Beast Emperor finished speaking, he immediately began writing divine runes and chanting an incantation.

Suddenly, a gigantic magic array formed beneath Beast Emperor’s feet and continuously expanded outward. Only after reaching a radius of 500 yards did it stop growing. The magic array then conducted a massive amount of Mana that no single player would be capable of.

When the magic array was complete, Beast Emperor stabbed the black jade staff in his hand into the center of the magic array, letting it serve as the magic array’s core.

“Have them enter the magic array one by one. Make sure not to enter it too quickly. If they’re too quick, the magic array won’t be able to absorb their Immortal Souls, and they will end up hurt for nothing,” Beast Emperor said as he looked at Singular Burial. “Also, during this period, no harm must come to the magic array’s core. Otherwise, everything will be for naught.”

“Rest assured. I’ve summoned plenty of my Guild’s experts here. There’s even an army of 100,000 elites spread across the surrounding area. Even if someone tries to launch an ambush, I still have a defensive magic array I can activate to hold them back,” Singular Burial said, nodding. His gaze then shifted toward the general direction of Stone Forest Town, a cold glint flashing in his eyes as he swore, “Black Flame, just you wait! Since you dared to destroy my Ancient Rock City, I will definitely let you personally witness the destruction of the Guild you created!”

Due to the various superpowers' successful invasion of Ancient Rock City, he had no choice but to turn the city into a nest for Evil Demons.

The loss of this massive source of income had a considerable impact on Heaven's Burial's development. In fact, some of the major corporations supporting Heaven's Burial had already withdrawn their funds, instantly shattering Singular Burial's dream of making the Guild a superpower. As for the remaining corporations backing Heaven's Burial, they were staying only because they believed in Lei Jingyang's and his own abilities. If not for the two of them, these major corporations would've drastically reduced the funding they provided Heaven's Burial.

Hence, it was definitely not an exaggeration to say that the hatred he felt for Zero Wing could blot out the sky!

Originally, the plan was to take action against Zero Wing. However, after the battle at Ancient Rock City, Singular Burial changed his mind. He also wanted Zero Wing's members to have a taste of getting whittled down and destroyed bit by bit. First, he would take away Stone Forest Town. Next, he would deal with Zero Wing City. With these two places gone, Zero Wing would lose two of its most important sources of income. If that happened, it was only a matter of time before Zero Wing crumbled. Meanwhile, all Black Flame would be able to do at that time was watch as Zero Wing dissolved into nothingness while Stone Forest Town and Zero Wing City fell into the hands of Heaven's Burial.

From then on, Heaven's Burial would replace Zero Wing as Star-Moon Kingdom's absolute overlord!

Beast Emperor no longer made any further comments. Instead, he summoned a Mythic ranked Evil Demon to secretly assist in protecting the magic array. Compared to expert players, a Mythic ranked Evil Demon provided much greater assurance. After all, he had paid an enormous price to obtain the black jade staff. Acquiring another one to hold another sacrificial ceremony would be extremely difficult.

After Beast Emperor was done dealing with the matters here, he took out a Teleportation Scroll and left the area. All he needed to do now was wait for the magic array to collect a sufficient number of Immortal Souls.

Meanwhile, such a large commotion naturally could not escape the eyes of Star-Moon Kingdom's various major powers.

"What's Heaven's Burial trying to do by gathering so many players over at Stone Forest Town?"

"Could it be preparing to vent its anger on Zero Wing's Stone Forest Town now that its Ancient Rock City has been destroyed?"

"That shouldn't be the case, right? That's Stone Forest Town we're talking about. It's not as if we've never seen how strong the town's defenses are. It is even more fortified than NPC towns. Moreover, I heard that the number of Tier 2 NPC soldiers defending Stone Forest Town has already exceeded 400. The town won't be so easy to take down. Hasn't Heaven's Burial learned its lesson from its previous failure?"

"Maybe Heaven's Burial has some trump card to rely on."

...

When the various major powers discovered Heaven's Burial's actions, they could not help but discuss it curiously. They all wondered what Heaven's Burial was trying to do.

...

“Vice Guild Leader, Heaven’s Burial seems to be trying to take action against Stone Forest Town. What should we do?”

The Zero Wing members garrisoning Stone Forest Town were greatly concerned over this matter. Based on Heaven’s Burial’s actions, that Guild was obviously planning on starting a Guild war, only it had yet to make all the necessary preparations. Once it was ready, however, it would definitely launch an attack.

“Everyone in the Guild is to avoid casually going out during this period, to avoid getting ambushed by Heaven’s Burial’s Evil Demons. At the same time, keep a close eye on Heaven’s Burial’s status and report back any findings immediately!” Aqua Rose fired off commands through the Guild chat. She also had Melancholic Smile strengthen the defenses of Stone Forest Town, building more Defense Turrets and moving more Miniature Ballistas to Stone Forest Town as a precaution.

Currently, Heaven’s Burial’s monster army was already approaching Star-Moon Kingdom’s border. If Zero Wing did not send experts to help the NPC armies exterminate some of the monsters, the monster army’s advance into Star-Moon Kingdom would definitely accelerate. Hence, they could not afford to pull away those experts to deal with Heaven’s Burial’s player army.

The only thing they could do right now was slow the advance of the monster army while strengthening the defenses of Stone Forest Town. Not to mention, the odds were that Heaven’s Burial’s player army was capable of summoning a large number of Evil Demons to aid the army in battle. If Zero Wing launched a half-hearted attack on Heaven’s Burial’s player army, Zero Wing’s members would definitely be beaten black and blue. After all, without the help of static defenses and NPC soldiers, players couldn’t contend against the powerful Evil Demons.

...

For a time, the atmosphere in Star-Moon Kingdom turned awkward. Aside from Zero Wing, the other Guilds in the kingdom were also making their own preparations for war. After all, nobody knew for sure what Heaven's Burial was actually trying to do. There was always a chance that the Guild would go crazy and start attacking every Guild Town in sight.

Although the NPCs of Star-Moon Kingdom had already tightened its security measures against Evil Beasts and Evil Demons, if players wanted to have the kingdom's armies mobilized to assist them in dealing with these monsters, they needed to provide concrete proof that these monsters had actually appeared. Only then would the kingdom's armies move out. Moreover, the kingdom's armies would need some time to get to the battlefield.

If their Guild Towns failed to hold out until the kingdom's armies arrived, then there would be no point in notifying the kingdom. Hence, the various large Guilds had all started building up the defenses of their respective towns.

...

Meanwhile, back at the Darkness World, Shi Feng had also started grinding Grand Lords with greater urgency. Now, he had two Heroic Spirits participating in the battle simultaneously. With the help of Anna and three Tier 3 Demons, killing Level 70 or so Grand Lords became significantly easier. However, Grand Lords still weren't available in great abundance.

After half a day or so of wanton slaughter, Shi Feng had basically killed every Grand Lord present on the map he was currently in. Now, Shi Feng had a total of 52 Darkness Stones and 386 Darkness Stone Fragments, which was still some distance away from his target. Meanwhile, if he wished to find and kill more Grand Lords, he had only two options to do so.

The first option was to wait for the Grand Lords he killed to respawn. However, Grand Lords generally took two or three natural days to respawn. Killing the Grand Lords too quickly had left him with no Grand Lords to grind. However, Shi Feng couldn't do anything about this situation. Anna was simply too strong.

The second option was to head to other maps. The Grand Lords of other maps remained untouched. They were all alive and kicking. The only problem was getting to other maps.

The Darkness World was different from the continent of God's Domain. On the continent of God's Domain, players faced no hindrance when moving between maps. In the Darkness World, however, the maps had strict level restrictions preventing players from going wherever they wished. In a sense, the Darkness World was similar to the Ice Crystal World. Players needed to defeat the designated Guardian Boss in order to proceed to other maps; otherwise, they would be stuck in the same map forever.

Generally, players that arrived at the Darkness World using the teleportation stones exchanged at the Seven Luminaries Temple would not think of heading to other maps, because the map they were teleported to was suitable for their level, and just surviving in the said map was already plenty difficult. They would not even have time to think about heading to other maps. Shi Feng was definitely a unique case.

It seems I have no choice but to force my way through, Shi Feng thought as he looked at the 30-meter-tall monster sleeping inside the canyon ahead of him. He then advanced towards the monster together with Anna.

Now that the Evil Demon and Evil Beast armies were invading Star-Moon Kingdom, he naturally could not waste time waiting for the Grand Lords he had killed to respawn. His only choice was to head to another map and hunt the Grand Lords there.

Chapter 1682 – High Demon

Inside the quiet canyon, when Shi Feng got within 1,000 yards of the next map, he suddenly felt a powerful pressure washing over him.

The pressure he felt now was completely different from what he experienced from the monsters he encountered before. In other words, there was a qualitative change to the pressure he felt.

Currently, Shi Feng had already reached Tier 2, yet the pressure still made him extremely uncomfortable. His body felt as if it was fully submerged in a pool of water.

The pressure is so strong despite the 1,000 yards separating us? Shi Feng stared at the massive figure displayed on his Detection Crystal Ball in disbelief.

The crystal ball showed a humanoid figure with the head of a goat sprawled across the ground before the canyon's exit. The figure also had a massive serpent for a tail and the bat-like wings commonly seen on Demons. As the figure exhaled, flames surged out of its nostrils and scorched the ground before it.

"What?! A High Demon?!" Shi Feng was dumbfounded as he looked at this figure.

There were many Demonic Creatures in God's Domain. Aside from having a difference in strength, these Demonic Creatures were also distinguished by lineage. In fact, the hierarchy among Demons was largely determined based on lineage. Demons with noble lineages ruled over Demons with ordinary lineages.

Naturally, the nobler the lineage a Demon possessed, the greater their potential for growth. In God's Domain, most Demons at the Demon King standard were High Demons. It was very difficult for a Demon with an ordinary lineage to grow into a Tier 5 Demon King, much less a Tier 6 Demon God.

Demons with noble lineages were known as High Demons. In terms of Life Rating, they were superior to even Archaic Species. At the same tier, only Dragons or Ferocious Beasts would be capable of suppressing High Demons. Needless to say, the ordinary Demons Shi Feng summoned were no match for High Demons.

Nevertheless, the Guardian Boss stationed at the entrance to the next map was actually a High Demon.

Due to the extreme distance, the Detection Crystal Ball couldn't detect the statistics of the High Demon. However, when Shi Feng arrived within 600 yards of the High Demon, its statistics entered his eyes.

...

[Baphomet] (High Demon, Grand Lord)

Level 73

HP 120,000,000/120,000,000

...

"A Level 73 Grand Lord?" Shi Feng fell into deep thought as he looked at Baphomet's statistics.

Compared to an Archaic Species of the same level, a High Demon had much less HP. Even so, 120,000,000 HP was still a horrifying amount for him to deal with. Just Baphomet's battle recovery alone allowed it to recover 1,200,000 HP every five seconds. If his DPS was lower than 240,000, Baphomet would be an invincible existence to him.

The only stroke of luck was that Baphomet was a Demon. So long as his opponent was a Demon, the Bible of Darkness would be able to suppress it.

Although he couldn't use the Bible of Darkness to turn Baphomet into his subordinate, he could greatly suppress the High Demon's Basic Attributes. Moreover, this suppression was absolute; its effects would not weaken in the slightest, unlike how magic arrays and the like did when the target monster was too strong.

All the same, a High Demon was still a High Demon. Baphomet wasn't just strong in terms of Basic Attributes. The Skills, Spells, and combat standard it possessed were beyond those of an ordinary Demon.

I can only give it a try. Gritting his teeth, Shi Feng took out another Primordial Scroll from his bag and summoned a third Primordial Heroic Spirit.

Although Zero Wing City's defenses were far superior to an ordinary Guild City's, the current situation was unlike before. The quantity and quality of the Evil Beasts and Evil Demons surging into Star-Moon Kingdom were extraordinary. If the monsters broke through the defensive network of the kingdom's army and reached Zero Wing City, Shi Feng was unsure whether Zero Wing City could hold its ground against them.

If he could secure the Lost Town before this happened, the numerous Mana Weapons stored inside the Lost Town would undoubtedly raise Zero Wing's strength by a significant margin. At that time, the chances of defending Zero Wing City would also improve significantly.

Looking at Baphomet, Shi Feng did not hurry to have his three Demons charge at the High Demon. Instead, he waited out the Cooldown of Anna's Skills. Afterward, he had the three Heroic Spirits cast one buff after another on everyone in the group, causing their Basic Attributes to skyrocket, particularly those of the Level 80 Golden Giant, which already possessed immense Strength. After being buffed up by the three Heroic Spirits, its Strength was already close to rivaling a Grand Lord's of the same level.

Following which, Shi Feng gave the command to attack. Taking the lead, the Golden Giant and three Tier 3 Demons charged forward, the ten Rock Guardians following closely after them.

If a player were to witness this scene, they would definitely turn around and flee. However, Baphomet simply yawned, paying no heed whatsoever to the approaching enemies.

Only when the Golden Giant and three Demons arrived within 200 yards of Baphomet did the High Demon look at the Golden Giant. Suddenly, as if they had just stepped into a muddy swamp, the Golden Giant, Demons, and Rock Guardians' speed decreased abruptly. Moreover, their Movement Speed wasn't the only thing reduced; even their reaction speeds turned sluggish.

Following which, Baphomet stomped on the ground and disappeared from where it stood.

When Baphomet reappeared, it had moved over 50 yards from its original position. The High Demon was practically faster than even an ordinary Mythic monster. Before the Golden Giant could react, Baphomet already stood before it, the High Demon looking no different from a child compared to the Golden Giant.

After appearing before the Golden Giant, Baphomet waved its hand lightly as if it were sweeping away dust. In the next moment, the Golden Giant and the Demons and Rock Guardians standing beside and behind the Golden Giant were all sent flying over 20 yards back, damages appearing above the summoned creatures' heads.

Among the group, the Golden Giant, which possessed the highest Defense, lost over 700,000 HP, whereas the Lord ranked Rock Guardians lost over 1,000,000 HP each.

Sure enough, it's very strong! Shi Feng was deeply shocked by the Strength Baphomet displayed.

Baphomet was much more powerful than any of the Grand Lord ranked Archaic Species he had gone up against before. Moreover, based on the performance Baphomet just displayed, Shi Feng could tell that the High Demon's combat standard should be at the sixth-floor Trial Tower standard. With the High Demon's mythical speed, even a 100-man team of Tier 2 experts would be like fish on a chopping board if it went up against Baphomet.

Afterward, a series of exchanges took place between both sides. Unfortunately, although the Golden Giant and three Demons retaliated, they only managed to land a few Spells on Baphomet. Relying on its mythical speed, the High Demon easily dodged every normal attack sent at it. In contrast, despite being healed by Tier 3 Heroic Spirits, the Golden Giant and Demons still continually lost HP. Although the Golden Giant and Demons tried blocking and dodging Baphomet's attacks, their weakened reaction speeds prevented them from doing so.

However, as Baphomet paid attention only to the Golden Giant and Tier 3 Demons, Shi Feng was able to get within 100 yards of the High Demon unnoticed and immediately activated Demon Ruler.

Suddenly, a ripple of power left the Bible of Darkness Shi Feng held. Baphomet's Basic Attributes promptly plummeted by 30%. The effect of Demon Ruler was remarkable.

However, this was still not the end. Anna, who had long since completed her own preparations, had the Rock Giants form a magic array and suppressed Baphomet even more. However, the magic array was evidently inferior to Demon Ruler. In the end, Baphomet retained 60% of its original Basic Attributes, and it still suppressed the Golden Giant and Tier 3 Demons. But instead of dodging all of the Golden Giant and Demons' attacks, the High Demon was now forced to parry and block instead. Nevertheless, the Golden Giant failed to inflict any significant damage on Baphomet.

Seeing this, Shi Feng had no choice but to spend 5,000 Magic Crystals and activate the Ring of Gospel's World Projection.

When World Projection descended on Baphomet, the High Demon's speed decreased once more. However, even after World Projection's suppression took effect, Baphomet still retained 50% of its Basic Attributes and still overwhelmed the Golden Giant.

"How is it so powerful?" Shi Feng was next to speechless as he stared at Baphomet. If not for the Bible of Darkness's suppression, he would've long since turned around and fled by now. After thinking up to this point, he turned to look at Anna, a bitter smile on his face as he said, "It seems we can't hold back anything at all."

Following which, he commanded Anna to use her other Overtier Spell, which was also the strongest Spell Anna currently possessed.

Tier 3 Curse, Yin Yang Judgment!

Yin Yang Judgment's Cooldown was one natural day. Unless absolutely necessary, Shi Feng did not wish to use the Curse at all. However, if he did not use it now, it was only a matter of time before Baphomet defeated his team. After all, World Projection had a short duration of only ten minutes, each use costing him 5,000 Magic Crystals. He did not have enough Magic Crystals to fight a protracted battle with the High Demon.

Chapter 1683 – First Kill Baphomet

After Anna completed the final verse of her incantation, two magic arrays, one glowing white and the other, black, appeared above Baphomet. The Mana surrounding the magic array then grew restless, blurring space around the High Demon.

Such a huge disturbance attracted Baphomet's attention, and the High Demon's immediate reaction was to turn and flee.

But Anna didn't give Baphomet the chance to escape. Waving her staff, she activated the magic array looming above Baphomet.

Suddenly, a 50-meter-long golden, holy spear descended from the sky.

The instant the spear fell, space around the magic array and Baphomet froze, drastically decreasing the High Demon's Movement Speed. Before Baphomet could attempt to defend itself, the holy spear collided with the monster.

Boom!

As a result, a towering, black-white light pillar rose into the air. When the pillar had manifested, the world around Baphomet shook violently, and resulting shockwave pushed the Golden Giant and the Tier 3 Demons under Shi Feng's control back by over 20 yards...

After the light pillar had disappeared, it revealed a massive crater where Baphomet had stood, with the High Lord lying at the body. Scorching flames burned the High Demon, decorating it and the crater with scorch marks. Dark-blue blood seeped from the numerous wounds covering Baphomet's body.

However, compared to Baphomet's miserable appearance, the damage it had taken was truly terrifying.

-4,467,175!

A damage of over four million appeared above Baphomet's head. To Baphomet, who only had a maximum HP of 60,000,000 after multiple means of suppression, this move had taken nearly one-thirteenth of its total HP...

The might of Yin Yang Judgment completely exceeded Shi Feng's expectations.

Moreover, Baphomet had been heavily injured when the Tier 3 Curse had struck, significantly decreasing its combat power.

With no intentions of letting Baphomet recover, Shi Feng ordered all of the summoned creatures to use their strongest moves, holding nothing back.

Following which, Tier 2 and Tier 3 Skills and Spells bombarded the High Demon, one after another.

The injured Baphomet wasn't able to dodge any of the incoming attacks, and every Skill and Spell that had been sent slammed into the High Demont. Each attack dealt a minimum of -500,000 damage, depleting Baphomet's HP by a significant chunk.

80%... 75%... 70%...

Although Baphomet eventually recovered from its mental shock and resumed its retaliation, the Golden Giant was more than enough to keep the High Demon busy with its weakened combat power. This prevented Baphomet from blocking Anna, the Tier 3 Demons, and Heroic Spirits' attacks.

Of course, Shi Feng didn't hold back, either. After activating Heavenly Dragon's Power, followed by Phantom Kill, he charged forward.

Nine Dragons Slash!

Shadow Blade!

Lightning Flash!

Purgatory Pentaslash!

Thunder Flame Explosion!

Flame Burst!

Thanks to Killing Ray, every one of Shi Feng's Skills dealt double damage to Baphomet, and damages in the tens of thousands appeared above the Boss's head. Although his damage was no match for the Tier 3 Demons, who weren't suppressed by the Darkness World, it was still considerable.

50%... 40%... 30%...

As time passed and Baphomet's HP continuously decreased, it continued to recover. Gradually, its reaction speed recovered, and eventually, the Level 80 Golden Giant wasn't able to keep up with its attacks. This forced the Heroic Spirits at the rear line to shift their focus from offense to healing.

Once Baphomet's HP fell to 20%, the High Demon revealed a sinister grin. It began to swipe its claws at the air around it, sending powerful gales at Shi Feng and his team.

Before Shi Feng and the others could launch another assault, Baphomet had finished chanting an incantation. The ground before the High Demon then cracked and shattered as towering, pitch-black flames spewed from the cracks. When the flames had dissipated, a crimson longsword engraved with pitch-black runes had taken their place.

The moment the longsword appeared, Shi Feng felt the surrounding Power of Darkness surge towards the weapon. The concentrated Power of Darkness became a black mist that circulated the crimson blade.

Releasing the one-handed sword in its right hand, Baphomet grabbed the crimson longsword. The moment the High Demon touched the weapon, black flames danced along the sword's blade.

Soul Fire? Shi Feng's expression darkened when he saw the flames. *The punishment for challenging it is actually this severe?*

Although he had known that a High Demon would have powerful attack methods, he hadn't expected Baphomet to use Soul Fire in battle. This was a player's nightmare.

Soul Fire was capable of burning souls, and not even players' Immortal Souls were immune to its effects.

If players were killed by Soul Fire, not only would their death penalty increase, but they would also be prevented from logging into God's Domain for multiple days...

Of course, this mechanic had likely been created to prevent players from challenging the Guardian Boss a second time within a short period. However, Shi Feng didn't want to waste too much time in the Darkness World. If he suddenly couldn't log into the game for several days, Zero Wing would be finished.

Without waiting for Shi Feng to respond, Baphomet stomped its hoofs on the ground and vanished. It then reappeared before the Golden Giant, cutting down at the Great Lord with its flaming longsword.

Failing to react in time, the Golden Giant succumbed to Baphomet's attack, a damage over -1,300,000 appearing above its head. Pitch-black flames licked at the wound the longsword had created.

Seeing this, the Heroic Spirits immediately cast their Healing Spells on the Golden Giant.

However, when the Healing Spells touched the Great Lord, their effects seemed to have changed. Not only did the Golden Giant still sport the wound, but the pitch-black flames also burned with their original vigor. In fact, the Golden Giant had only received 30% of the Spell's normal healing...

When he saw this, Shi Feng's expression darkened further.

Reduced healing effects was still acceptable, but the fact that the wounds Baphomet had inflicted couldn't be healed complicated the situation. As the Golden Giant accumulated more injuries, it would suffer a heavily injured state sooner or later. If that happened, its combat power would fall, and it would be helpless against the High Demon. If the Golden Giant couldn't deal sufficient damage, it would lose Baphomet's aggro. The High Demon would then be free to target someone else.

“Quick! Attack it with everything you’ve got!” Shi Feng commanded Anna. At the same time, he took two Tier 3 Magic Scrolls from his bag and activated them, one after another.

Holding nothing back, Anna activated Yin Yang Power, her Mana overflowing from her body.

One Tier 3 Spell after another bombarded Baphomet. However, even after noticing the incoming Spells, Baphomet simply revealed a sneer as it lightly swung its crimson longsword, sending a wave of black fire to devour the approaching Spells.

The pitch-black flames corroded the Tier 3 Spells’ power relentlessly. By the time the Spells actually reached Baphomet, they were weaker than Tier 2 Spells. Baphomet then swung its longsword again and easily crushed the incoming attacks...

Fortunately, although Baphomet had superior strength, it couldn’t completely dodge the Tier 3 Demons’ attacks. Although its HP fell much slower than before, it still decreased at a steady rate.

After using the two Tier 3 Magic Scrolls, Shi Feng proceeded to activate Blade Liberation.

Currently, both Baphomet’s Defense and reaction speed were recovering, and as a result, it continued to take less damage.

Despite bombarding Baphomet with a series of powerful attacks, they had only reduced Baphomet’s HP to 12%. In contrast, the Golden Giant had become heavily injured after receiving ten hits from the High Demon’s crimson longsword, and it could no longer serve as a proper MT. Baphomet then turned its attention to the Tier 3 Demons. If this continued, it was only a matter of time before they team-wiped.

After activating Blade Liberation, Shi Feng's Attributes skyrocketed yet again, and his Basic Attributes now surpassed the Level 80 Golden Giant's. Following which, Shi Feng activated Instant Strike and appeared before Baphomet.

Sword's Orbit!

Dang! Dang! Dang!

Unfortunately, Baphomet managed to block the majority of Shi Feng's slashes. Only the occasional slash slipped past the High Demon's guard and dealt a little over -100,000 damage. With how much HP Baphomet had remaining, the High Demon wasn't particularly concerned with this amount of damage.

Even after Shi Feng fought for several seconds and launched dozens of slashes, the High Demon still had 5% of its HP remaining. Meanwhile, once Shi Feng had lost Instant Strike's buff, Baphomet gained the upper hand. In fact, due to Shi Feng's weakened state, he lacked any ability to retaliate. He could only defend himself.

Fortunately, Anna finally finished her incantation.

Angel Summoning!

Suddenly, a Tier 4 Valkyrie dropped onto the battlefield. Taking a step forward, the Valkyrie instantly appeared before Baphomet and swung her holy spear. Despite being a High Demon, the impact still sent Baphomet flying back over 20 yards, robbing it of its defensive stance. Immediately, the Valkyrie threw her holy spear, which easily pierced through the defenseless High Demon and dealt over -4,000,000 damage. In the blink of an eye, Baphomet's HP fell below 1,000,000.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, Shi Feng activated Divine Providence and pointed Killing Ray at Baphomet.

Flame Domain!

Lightning Edge!

Under Shi Feng's command, a raging inferno and countless sword lights devoured Baphomet. Damages of over -200,000 appeared above Baphomet's head, one after another, tearing what little remained of the High Demon's HP away. Baphomet then died and collapsed to the ground.

Following which, Shi Feng watched his experience bar increase rapidly. At the same time, the sound of a system notification reached his ears.

...

System: Congratulations! You have obtained the First Kill on Baphomet, the Guardian Boss of Dark Sin Canyon. Rewards doubled. Acquired High Demon's Soul.

Chapter 1684 – Repairing the Bible of Darkness

After watching Baphomet die, Shi Feng breathed a deep sigh of relief.

Despite the fact that the Darkness World reduced Shi Feng's EXP gain, his experience bar had risen by 7%, pushing him to 62% of Level 65. If not for the 95% reduction in EXP gain, he definitely would've climbed to Level 66.

With the High Demon's death, loot rained down from above, creating a dazzling sight to behold. If the various superpowers learned of this, they'd die from envy.

The Darkness World's monsters already dropped excellent loot, and as a map's Guardian Boss, Baphomet's loot was far better than the map's other monsters. Including the First Kill bonus, one could just imagine how bountiful the High Demon's loot was. Giving the loot a rough glance, Shi Feng estimated that there should be over 100 items...

As items rained from the sky, a crystal, radiating a golden glow, landed before Shi Feng. His curiosity piqued, Shi Feng promptly picked up the crystal and inspected it.

...

[High Demon's Soul] (Epic Rank Consumable)

Sacrifice Magic Crystals to create a new body for High Demon Baphomet. Spend 2,000 Magic Crystals to create a Tier 3 body that is 10 Levels higher than the user; 5,000 Magic Crystals to create a Tier 4 body that is 15 Levels higher than the user. Can be used three times.

Cooldown: 5 minutes

Current usage count: 0

...

What a powerful Epic Consumable! Shi Feng was stunned as he read the crystal's introductory text.

Epic Consumables were incredibly rare in God's Domain, and each one was incomparably powerful. Take the Demon King's Horn, for example. It had enabled Shi Feng to destroy a city's defensive magic array instantly.

Meanwhile, the High Demon's Soul was similarly extraordinary.

At this stage of the game, a Tier 4 High Demon was practically invincible to players. Moreover, Shi Feng could use the item three times. Also, the High Demon's Soul was different from the Divine Beast's Descent Magic Array. In the latter's case, if the magic array's operation were interrupted, the summoned Divine Beast would disappear. In the case of the High Demon's Soul, the summoned High Demon would only be canceled if the owner were killed. It was a perfect tool of war.

Shi Feng then stored the High Demon's Soul and collected the loot scattered across the ground.

In total, Baphomet had dropped 154 items, including 45 Epic materials and 31 Magic Scrolls. Among the Magic Scrolls, six were Tier 3 Magic Scrolls: two large-scale destruction Magic Scrolls, one Summoning Scroll, two Defensive Magic Scrolls, and one single-target attack Magic Scroll. There was also one Tier 4 large-scale destruction Magic Scroll.

The Guardian Boss had dropped one Grandmaster and 33 Master ranked potions, as well. The Grandmaster potion was a Growth Potion that when consumed, would temporarily increase the user's potential and forcefully elevate them by a single tier.

This potion wasn't particularly useful to Tier 1 players, but to Tier 2 players and above, this potion's effects were even stronger than a Berserk Skill. A Berserk Skill only granted players additional Basic Attributes. However, this Growth Potion elevated players by a single tier. Not only would this increase grant players a boost to their Basic Attributes, but players' physique would also improve.

This potion would be miraculously effective in Dungeons.

As for the remaining 44 items, there were ten designs and recipes of various kinds among them. There was even a Master ranked potion recipe and a Master ranked engineering design.

The Master ranked potion in question was the Life Potion. Not only would this potion heal players for 70% of their maximum HP instantly when consumed, but it would also grant an HoT buff that recovered 2% of the user's HP every second for 10 seconds. In addition, it healed any heavy injuries and replenished 10% of the player's Stamina and Concentration. Unfortunately, the potion had a 5-minute Cooldown, so it could only be used once or twice in most battles.

Even so, it was much stronger than any Advanced ranked recovery potion available on the market currently. Aside from the HP regeneration it provided, the fact that it could heal heavy injuries and replenish Stamina and Concentration made it extremely valuable. The potion would be particularly effective when players fought intense battles and when their Stamina and Concentration were nearly exhausted. The potion would also be very useful against Bosses that increased Stamina and Concentration consumption.

Although the Life Potion only recovered 10% of the player's Stamina and Concentration, it could save the player's life or help the team defeat a powerful Boss if used during a critical moment. When the Life Potion had been introduced to the market in Shi Feng's previous life, each bottle had easily sold for 5 Gold.

However, the Life Potion Recipe was extremely rare, and even the various superpowers had only acquired a few copies after going to great lengths. Each copy of the recipe could easily sell for an exorbitant 8,000 Gold if put up for auction.

As for the Master ranked engineering design Baphomet had dropped, it was the Hang Glider Design. Like its real-world counterpart, the Hang Glider allowed players to glide through the air. Moreover, the Hang Glider was much faster than any Mount. The Master ranked Hang Glider provided a 350% Movement Speed increase. Since there weren't usually obstacles in the air, players could also traverse longer distances in a straight line.

However, the Hang Glider had three flaws. The first was that players needed to take off from a sufficiently high location. The second was that the environment would affect the Hang Glider. If players tried to glide through a storm, the consequences would be severe. They might even be blown out of the sky and fall to their deaths. The third flaw was that Hang Gliders were Consumables and could not be repaired; they would disappear once their durability had been exhausted. Meanwhile, even a Common Hang Glider cost around 18 Gold to produce. They weren't much cheaper than Common Mounts, would players could use indefinitely.

However, to players who valued time and speed, these flaws did very little to stop them from using the Hang Gliders.

In the past, many experts had opted to use Hang Gliders whenever they could to save on travel time. They paid no attention to the cost.

As Shi Feng gazed at the Hang Glider Design, his eyes sparkled with joy.

Since Mounts weren't yet popular in God's Domain, players demand for Hang Gliders would be intense if he sold them. At this point, the various large Guilds were starting to shift the focus of their development to neutral maps between kingdoms and empires, after all.

In a situation where no one had obtained a Town Building Order or Town Migration Order, players were forced to walk to these neutral maps. In addition, neutral maps themselves were very large. Even with a Mount, players would need a considerable amount of time to explore the map fully. However, players could save a lot of time if they had a Hang Glider.

If the Candlelight Trading Firm introduced the Hang Glider to the market now, it would definitely be well-received. In addition, since Candlelight would have the monopoly over the Hang Gliders, it would make a fortune off of the transportation tool. The extra funds would help Zero Wing City's development tremendously.

Meanwhile, among the other eight recipes and designs Baphomet had dropped, there was also an Advanced Hang Glider Design. Although the Advanced Hang Glider was inferior to the Master Hang Glider, it still increased players' Movement Speed by 300%.

It seems I'll have to find some time to grind Hang Glider Recipes, Shi Feng thought to himself.

Although the Master Hang Glider was super-rare, the Advanced version wasn't. Level 70-plus Grand Lords and above all had a chance of dropping the recipe. The Field Bosses of a few particular maps even had higher drop-rates. In the past, the various large Guilds had generally opted to grind those Field Bosses to obtain more Advanced Hang Glider Recipes.

Zero Wing's main force was already considerably strong. With the help of his Bible of Darkness, they could definitely grind for more Advanced Hang Glider Recipes.

After storing the Master Hang Glider Design, Shi Feng shifted his sight to a tattered page in his bag. The words on the page had long since become indiscernible. However, the page still radiated a faint trace of

Divine Might. Moreover, the surrounding Power of Darkness gathered around the page when he pulled it from his bag.

When Shi Feng inspected this page, he became indescribably excited.

This was because this page was actually part of the Bible of Darkness. Despite repairing the Bible of Darkness's core, it wasn't complete. The book was still missing pages.

The page before him was none other than one of those missing pages.

...

System: You have discovered a page of the Bible of Darkness. Do you wish to spend 500 Magic Crystals to assimilate this page with the Bible of Darkness and repair it?

...

"Repair!" Shi Feng chose to repair the Bible of Darkness without hesitation.

Chapter 1685 – Dark Armament

When Shi Feng agreed to repair the Bible of Darkness, the book flew out of his bag space and hovered before him. The book then opened to reveal the missing page's location. At the same time, the missing

page transformed into a black mist that melded with the Bible of Darkness. Three seconds later, the page had joined the book as seamlessly as if it had never left in the first place.

After the Bible of Darkness had recovered one of its missing pages, the Power of Darkness that gathered around the book became denser, and now a black mist settled over the book.

The Bible of Darkness has improved by so much?

After repairing the Bible of Darkness, its appearance indicated that it had become far more powerful. Although the book's aura wasn't much stronger than before, its control of Power of Darkness had improved. In fact, the Bible of Darkness's control over the Power of Darkness had improved so much that Shi Feng could feel the Darkness World's suppression weaken slightly.

Originally, this world had suppressed his Basic Attributes by 30%, but now, it had dropped to 25%. The suppression on his senses had also decreased from 50% to 40%. Unfortunately, his EXP gain was still reduced by 95%.

Immediately, Shi Feng inspected the repaired Bible of Darkness.

...

[Bible of Darkness] (Fragmented Legendary Item)

The Bible of Darkness had been destroyed during the Great Destruction. The core magic array has since been repaired using the Source of Space-time thus far. If one can gather the other fragments, they can restore the Bible's power, gaining dominance over all Demonic Creatures and become the Lord of Demons.

Skill 1:

Demon Summoning: Summons the Demon Gate with the Power of Darkness, calling forth a random Demon that is no higher than 1 Tier and 15 Levels than the summoner (Maximum Tier cannot exceed Tier 5). Holder of the Bible of Darkness can command the summoned Demon for up to 6 hours.

Cooldown: 2 hours 30 minutes

Skill 2:

Gate of Darkness: Allows teleportation to the Dark Den. Can also be used in the Dark Den to teleport to the outside world. Can teleport a maximum of 30 people at a single time.

Cooldown: 1 day

Skill 3:

Light of Darkness: Strengthen a player with the Power of Darkness, allowing said player to wield the Power of Darkness. Can strengthen up to a maximum of 1,500 people. Every player strengthened provides one Source of Darkness to the wielder of the Bible of Darkness.

Skill 4:

Power of Darkness: Fill your body with the Power of Darkness, increasing all Attributes by 120%, decreasing Cooldown of all Skills by 30%, and increase damage by 50%. Duration will be equal to number of Source of Darkness*0.5 seconds. (Power of Darkness cannot stack. Can only strengthen players up to a maximum of Tier 5 classes)

Cooldown: 5 hours

Skill 5:

Demon Ruler:

Passive effect – Increases the Attributes of Demonic Creatures under user's control by 35%. Forcibly decreases the Attributes of all enemy Demonic Creatures within a 1,000-yard radius by 30%.

Active effect – When activated, there is a 12% chance to control a Demonic Creature that is no higher than 2 Tiers and 30 Levels than the user for 2 hours. Can control up to Tier 5 creatures. Can control up to a maximum of three creatures at a time.

Cooldown: 5 minutes

Skill 6:

Dark Armament: By sacrificing Sources of Darkness, transform the Bible of Darkness into a weapon suitable for the user. Duration is equal to number of Source of Darkness*3 seconds. During this period, the Bible of Darkness's other Skills cannot be used.

Cooldown: 6 hours

...

Dark Armament? The appearance of a new Skill had surprised Shi Feng. *Is this what the missing page contained?*

He had only expected to find some minor improvements to the Bible of Darkness's Skills after incorporating the missing page; he had never thought that the page would add a new Skill.

Weapons were the foundation of a player's combat power. Players could only wield high Attack Power with a powerful weapon.

At the end of the day, Berserk Skills were unreliable. On the other hand, a powerful weapon could permanently increase a player's combat power. Although the Bible of Darkness's weapon wouldn't last forever, it could still last up to 75 minutes, which was much longer than any Berserk Skill. It was enough time for players to end a large-scale battle.

After examining the Bible of Darkness for a few more minutes, Shi Feng stored it and began to appraise the other items Baphomet had dropped.

Of the remaining 34 items, there was one Darkness Stone and six Darkness Stone Fragments. The rest of the items were weapons and equipment, the most valuable of which was a pair of Epic ranked boots called the Trickster's Legs. When equipped, the Trickster's Legs would offer a significant boost to the wearer's Movement Speed and reaction speed. It was an excellent pair of boots that only Level 50

players and above could equip. There were also five pieces of Level 60 Dark-Gold Equipment, 12 pieces of Level 60 Fine-Gold Equipment, and 9 pieces of Level 60 Secret-Silver Equipment.

Among the Level 60 Fine-Gold Equipment, two pieces happened to be the hat and gloves for the Fantasy Demon Set, which Shi Feng still needed. He had also completed two Dark Devourer Sets after killing Baphomet.

Once Shi Feng had organized the loot, he didn't bother to sit and rest. Instead, he drank a drop of Life Essence and continued towards the next map.

After riding the Demonic Flame Tiger for around ten minutes through the canyon, Shi Feng reached a new map. Unlike the barren Dark Sin Canyon he had previously occupied, a tranquil forest dominated this map. Visibility here was also much better than in the Dark Sin Canyon. Even without using his summoned Demons, he could see up to 50 yards away.

Why are the monsters here so low-leveled? When Shi Feng had inspected his surroundings with the Detection Crystal Ball, the highest-level monsters he had found nearby were only Level 60. These monsters were clearly lower-leveled than in the Dark Sin Canyon. *Did I take the wrong path?*

The Dark Sin Canyon only had two exits. One of them had been completely blocked off, and a Guardian Boss defended the other. Since he couldn't pass through the sealed exit, he had chosen to kill Baphomet, yet that path had led him to a lower-level map...

Forget it. This will do. In any case, I am only trying to grind Darkness Stones. It'll be easier to kill Level 60 Grand Lords. Although Shi Feng hadn't expected to reach a lower-level map, he welcomed this outcome. It was undoubtedly easier to kill Level 60 Grand Lords than it was to kill their Level 80 cousins. Furthermore, he wasn't able to do much fighting since he was in a Weakened State due to activating his Twofold Berserk during the fight with Baphomet. For a short period, he wouldn't be able to add adequate combat power to his team.

Shi Feng then proceeded to lead Anna towards one of the Grand Lords he had discovered with the Detection Crystal Ball.

With three Level 80, Tier 3 Demons and one Level 80 Golden Giant, whose Strength rivaled a Grand Lord of the same level, defeating a Level 60 Grand Lord would be a piece of cake. With Anna and the three Heroic Spirits' assistance, the fight against the Grand Lord ended quickly. Shi Feng hadn't even needed to do anything throughout the fight.

Time passed quickly, and before Shi Feng had realized it, he had grinded in the tranquil forest for over a day and wiped out all of its Grand Lords. Now, he had 93 Darkness Stones and 847 Darkness Stone Fragments. With the Philosopher's Stone's 100% synthesis success rate, he would have no problems collecting 100 Darkness Stones.

The full day of grinding had also pushed Shi Feng to 84% of Level 65. If not for the reduced EXP gain, he would've long since reached Level 66. Even so, his leveling speed was incredibly efficient.

But compared to his leveling speed, the loot he had acquired from the Bosses he had killed was truly amazing. Although he had not obtained any Epic items, he had collected 17 pieces of Level 50 Dark-Gold Equipment, 52 pieces of Level 50 Fine-Gold Equipment, and 276 pieces of Level 50 Secret-Silver Equipment.

The number of weapons and equipment he amassed by himself in a single day could almost rival a first-rate Guild's acquisition.

Of course, a large part of the reason for his success was the help of Icarus's Heart, the monstrous Anna, and the Bible of Darkness. Without them, he never would have collected so many top-tier weapons and equipment in the Darkness World so easily.

Now that I've collected the Darkness Stones I need, it's about time I return. Shi Feng smiled at the Darkness Stones in his bag. With this, he had completed his quest to obtain the Lost Town.

Following which, Shi Feng took out a White River City Return Scroll and activated it.

After twenty seconds, Shi Feng transformed into a streak of white light and departed from the Darkness World.

Chapter 1686 – Stoneclaw Mountains Sealed

Star-Moon Kingdom, White River City:

After Shi Feng left the Teleportation Hall, he immediately noticed far fewer players on the street than before. Moreover, when players noticed the Zero Wing Emblem pinned on Shi Feng's Black Cloak, they gave him unusual looks.

When independent players on the streets had noticed Zero Wing's Emblem previously, they had gazed at the player wearing it with envy and admiration, but now, they looked at Shi Feng with sympathy in their eyes.

Shi Feng was confused.

He had only been away from White River City for a few days, yet the city had changed so massively.

What happened here?

Shi Feng began to pay closer attention to the players walking down the street. He soon discovered that independent players weren't the only ones behaving oddly. When players from small Guilds noticed him, they revealed ridiculing expressions.

This =confused Shi Feng even further. No matter what was said or done, Zero Wing was Star-Moon Kingdom's publicly-acknowledged number one Guild. Even if the Zero Wing's development had suffered lately due to the war with Heaven's Burial, the Guild hadn't fallen so far that even small Guilds' member would look down on it. Shi Feng had even dealt Heaven's Burial a severe blow recently.

Now that Heaven's Burial had lost its income from Ancient Rock City, the Guild's development potential had plummeted. It could no longer compete with Zero Wing's growth.

"Look, that guy's wearing Zero Wing's Bronze Emblem. He should be one of Zero Wing's experts, yet he still has time to wander aimlessly."

"I bet he ran back here once he realized that victory isn't possible. Heaven's Burial's latest strategy is too ruthless. Zero Wing is almost guaranteed to lose Stone Forest Town, and all of the various large Guilds are fending for themselves. Heaven's Burial even declared that any Guild that offers Zero Wing assistances will join its hit-list, and any of Zero Wing's members that withdraw will be spared its wrath."

"That's right. Who would've imagined that Heaven's Burial would close off the Stoneclaw Mountains map with such a powerful barrier? Not only has all communication been cut off, but they've also disabled Return Scrolls. Moreover, the barrier only has one exit. Based on what I've heard, a large army of Evil Demons and Evil Beasts guard that exit, and Heaven's Burial isn't letting any player leave the map, keeping players from notifying the kingdom's armies. Heaven's Burial isn't letting any player leave the map to notify the kingdom's armies."

“The Stoneclaw Mountains map has been locked down for nearly seven hours now. With Heaven’s Burial’s strength, it should’ve already captured Stone Forest Town.”

“I’m not sure. Based on the information Stone Forest Town’s players are sharing via offline communication, the battle between Zero Wing and Heaven’s Burial has become intense, with both sides constantly losing players. But Zero Wing’s players haven’t been able to break through to the barrier’s exit. In contrast, more players from Heaven’s Burial are gathering in the Stoneclaw Mountains by the minute. The same is true for the Evil Beasts and Evil Demons.”

“Heaven’s Burial is amazingly capable. With their almost complete control of all information relating to the siege, Zero Wing can’t reach the kingdom’s armies to ask for help. Meanwhile, trying to get into the barrier is a suicide mission. If Heaven’s Burial wishes it, it could kill the players trapped inside as many times as it wants, and those players will have no hope of escape. Logging off inside the barrier will also incur a severe penalty. Besides, if Zero Wing’s members log out of the game, Stone Forest Town will be as good as lost.”

...

As the players who rested in the bars and restaurants along the street watched Shi Feng, they began to discuss the recent events in the Stoneclaw Mountains. They all admired Heaven’s Burial’s prowess. Although Zero Wing was impressively powerful, Heaven’s Burial was a step ahead of its rival.

The Stoneclaw Mountains have been sealed? Shi Feng could not help his surprise.

He had seen Guilds seal off maps before, but those seals had only blocked communication and disabled Return Scrolls. Based on what he had just heard, the seal on the Stoneclaw Mountains even prevented players from leaving on foot. This was an extremely difficult feat. Not even he could accomplish the same effect.

In the past, only the various superpowers had used such seals when targeting certain apex experts or trying to capture enemy Guild Cities.

Shi Feng immediately turned back towards the Teleportation Hall and teleported to Star-Moon City. He then hurried towards Stone Forest Town.

...

Meanwhile, the normally blue sky over the Stoneclaw Mountains had dulled to a dismal gray. A barrier of Evil Energy had enveloped the entire map, and while inside this barrier, players' Stamina and Concentration would be sapped away, even if they did nothing but stand in place. Their minds also felt foggy due to the barrier's power.

In contrast, the Evil Demons inside the barrier were in their element. Both their movement and intellect had improved, as had their Basic Attributes.

Standing on one of Stone Forest Town's walls, Aqua Rose watched the swarm of monsters and players gather some distance away with a somber expression.

Suddenly, a Level 50 Ranger clad in blue walked up to Aqua Rose and reported, "Vice Guild Leader Aqua, based on our scouts' observations, another player army has entered the barrier. By the looks of it, they seem to be from Blackwater. There are roughly 20,000 players, over 6,000 of which are Level 49 or above. Moreover, they have brought eight Catapults with them."

"Six thousand experts and eight Catapults?" Aqua Rose's expression darkened further after hearing this.

Currently, Zero Wing only had around 100,000 members protecting Stone Forest Town, and a large majority of them were players she had gathered and led to the town to reinforce its defenses.

Meanwhile, Heaven's Burial had gathered over 300,000 members before Stone Forest Town. Although only around 170,000 of them were elite members, and the rest were normal members, the normal members were not to be underestimated. Even the weakest among them was Level 45.

Furthermore, Heaven's Burial had the support of a large force of Evil Demons. Rough estimates counted over 100,000 of these monsters. Moreover, more monsters joined the force as time passed. Although most of the Evil Demons were relatively weak, with only Level 45 Elites, they continued to devour monsters around the Stoneclaw Mountains, growing stronger.

In fact, Heaven's Burial had yet to besiege Stone Forest Town because it concentrated on accumulating more strength.

During this period, Aqua Rose and Zero Wing's experts had made multiple attempts to assault the barrier's exit and send information out of the map to notify the kingdom's armies, hoping that the NPCs would show up to exterminate the Evil Demon army. However, the Evil Demons and Heaven's Burial's members guarding the exits had foiled every attempt.

The Evil Demons guarding the exit were simply too powerful. There was even a Mythic ranked Evil Demon among them. Even Fire Dance, who had the greatest chances of escaping the barrier, had been defeated and killed in just a few moves. She hadn't even had the power to resist the Mythic ranked Evil Demon...

Now that Blackwater had dispatched 6,000 experts and eight Catapults as reinforcements, Heaven's Burial's strength in this siege had increased further.

Although Aqua Rose wanted nothing more than to charge out there and destroy the eight Catapults Blackwater had sent, the Evil Demon army would undoubtedly assault any force she led out of Stone

Forest Town. By leaving the town, they'd simply nourish the Evil Demons, ultimately helping Heaven's Burial capture Stone Forest Town.

"Hahaha! Vice Guild Leader Aqua, I suggest that you give up this struggle. Stone Forest Town will be mine! In fact, I won't just settle for Stone Forest Town. I'll take Zero Wing City as well! Listen up, Zero Wing members! You'd do well to abandon any hope of winning this war and withdraw from your Guild now. Staying will only spell your doom once my monster army charges into Stone Forest Town. We've already sealed off the Stoneclaw Mountains, so even in death, none of you will leave this place alive! You'll only die, again and again! So, withdraw from your Guild while you still have the chance!" Singular Burial announced with a voice amplification device as he watched Aqua Rose on the town's ramparts. "You should also know that currently, Blackwater's army and another army of Evil Demons are on their way. Once they arrive, not even Heaven' will be able to save you!"

The players in Stone Forest Town fell silent after listening to Singular Burial's declaration with solemn expressions.

"Are we going to fall, just like this?"

Everything Singular Burial had said seemed true. All they could do now was wait for death to reach them...

Suddenly, a figure appeared above the town before a deep voice echoed throughout the area, reaching Stone Forest Town and Heaven's Burial's army and ingraining its question into everyone's minds.

"Is that so?"

As the deep voice from above reached the players, everyone turned towards it.

“Black Flame!?”

“The Sword King?!”

...

Everyone quickly discovered a cloaked man hovering in the air. The man carried two longswords at his waist and radiated a majestic aura. Upon recognizing this man’s appearance, many players gasped in surprise.

This man had been responsible for so many miracles already.

From killing an enemy commander whilst surrounded by an army of thousands to deterring an army of tens of thousands single-handedly, this man had repeatedly defied common sense. He had even slain one well-known expert after another and wounded multiple superpowers. Just recently, he had charged into Ancient Rock City alone and destroyed two of the city’s defensive magic arrays. To top it all off, he had left that city with his life.

The man was definitely Star-Moon Kingdom’s number one expert.

“Guild Leader?”

“The Guild Leader’s back! He’s really here!”

Many of Zero Wing’s members on Stone Forest Town’s walls were ecstatic when they saw Shi Feng’s figure in the distant sky, and the depressing atmosphere that had surrounded them lifted instantly as fighting spirit overwhelmed these players. As they gazed up at Shi Feng, a hint of fanaticism even flashed in their eyes.

The Guild Leader? Has he already completed his quest? Although Aqua Rose was similarly excited to see Shi Feng, a seed of guilt sprouted in her heart.

Shi Feng had entrusted her with Zero Wing’s management before he had left, Heaven’s Burial had cornered the Guild. (B oxnovel.c om)

“Guild Leader, you’re finally back!” When Blackie, Fire Dance, Cola, Shadow Sword, Turtledove, and Zero Wing’s other core members saw Shi Feng, they seemed to have grown an extra backbone as they brimmed with confidence.

“Is Black Flame finally getting involved?”

“Notify the higher-ups immediately; tell them that Black Flame has arrived!”

The various superpowers’ spies stationed in Stone Forest Town exploded into action when they saw Shi Feng above the town. Some of these spied immediately logged out of the game to report the situation to their superiors. Although logging off would incur penalties, this information was worth the price.

After all, Shi Feng's appearance alone had changed the situation.

Zero Wing's members had already lost their fighting spirit after seeing the countless enemies around them. However, every one of these players reacted as if they were on some kind of high when they saw their Guild Leader, madness burning in their eyes.

Very quickly, the major powers who watched this war received news of Shi Feng's arrival in Stone Forest Town.

...

"So, Black Flame has finally made an appearance? And here I thought that he had given up on Stone Forest Town. It seems he still intends to fight this out until the very end." When Galaxy Past, who rested the Star Alliance's Residence in Star-Moon City, received the latest report from his subordinate, he could not help but shake his head and sigh.

Heaven's Burial had thrown everything it had into this last assault. The Guild had clearly stopped holding back. Even if Stone Forest Town's defenses were very powerful, the Evil Demon army was no laughing matter. Unlike Evil Beasts, Evil Demons were intelligent. They also had faster reaction speeds. They wouldn't succumb to the town's static defenses as easily as the Evil Beasts. Moreover, based on the information they had collected thus far, any player killed an Evil Demon killed inside the barrier would become a sacrifice, turning into a new Evil Demon for Heaven's Burial very quickly. Just thinking about it made Galaxy Past shudder with fear.

One could not forget the reinforcements Blackwater had sent, either. Eight Catapults could inflict devastating damage to Stone Forest Town. Not only did they deal high damage, but they also had an extremely long attack range. Even Zero Wing's movement-type defensive magic array would only last a few hits from these weapons of war.

...

Meanwhile, in a high-class restaurant in the Black Dragon Empire...

“Interesting. Black Flame really is a suicidal bastard.” Nine Dragons Emperor’s lips curled into a smile when he saw the video his subordinate had sent him. “Zero Wing is truly finished now. I can’t wait to see what Phoenix Rain plans to use to compete against me for Thunder Island in the next contest.”

...

In contrast to Nine Dragons Emperor’s reaction, when Phoenix Rain read the latest report on the war between Heaven’s Burial and Zero Wing from her position on Thunder Island, her expression darkened.

Why is he such a fool? Phoenix Rain was at a loss for words.

Heaven’s Burial had obviously sealed Stone Forest Town to massacre Zero Wing’s members. It was bad enough that Zero Wing had sent most of its main force members and expert players to the town to defend it, but now, even Shi Feng, Zero Wing’s Guild Leader, had fallen into this trap.

The wisest decision would be to abandon Stone Forest Town and conserve as much of the Guild’s strength as possible to protect Zero Wing City. The city had already become the Guild’s core, but if its Guild Leader were killed while protecting Stone Forest Town, it would deal a massive mental blow to the Guild.

With both its military prowess and morale wounded, how was Zero Wing supposed to defend Zero Wing City later?

... (B oxnovel.c om)

Standing amidst Heaven's Burial's army, which waited outside of Stone Forest Town, Singular Burial had his sight locked onto Shi Feng, glaring at the man with a chilling gaze.

Due to Black Flame, the foundation he had built for the future Heaven's Burial Empire had been utterly destroyed. If Black Flame hadn't destroyed Ancient Rock City's defensive magic arrays, the various superpowers wouldn't have sieged the city, forcing him to sacrifice his city to the Evil God's Branch Temple.

However, it was his turn to share the feeling of destruction with Zero Wing.

"Black Flame, your words sure are bold! What can you possibly do by yourself? You dared to destroy my city's defensive magic arrays, and today, I will take Stone Forest Town from you as compensation!" Singular Burial sneered at Shi Feng.

As soon as Singular Burial finished speaking, the Evil Demon army behind Heaven's Burial's army loosed an earth-shattering roar. The roars of over 100,000 Evil Demons echoed throughout the Stoneclaw Mountains, and the pressure the monsters released made everyone in Stone Forest Town shudder. Some players' legs even lost their strength.

The players in Stone Forest Town were reminded of the Evil Demon army's strength once more.

If the pressure the Evil Demon army radiated were already so powerful, the consequences would be unimaginable if the monster army took action.

Although Shi Feng was powerful, what could one person possibly do against so many formidable monsters? There were also Heaven's Burial's players to contend with.

In the end, Shi Feng had only come to die alongside Zero Wing's members by coming to Stone Forest Town!

"Since you people from Heaven's Burial like Stone Forest Town so much, then you can stay here forever!"

Shi Feng immediately retrieved a pitch-black energy bead from his bag. The instant he took out this bead, Heaven's Burial's members below him felt their souls shudder. This bead's power had even affected their consciousness.

This energy bead was none other than the Destruction Crystal Shi Feng had obtained from recasting the Disintegration Armor.

Before anyone could react, Shi Feng loosened his grip on the Destruction Crystal. The pitch-black energy bead then landed among Heaven's Burial's army.

Boom!

The moment the Destruction Crystal touched the ground, it exploded with a silver radiance. Instantly, the ground beneath the Destruction Crystal sank as the Power of Destruction spread across the land. Neither living beings nor inanimate objects were spared. Anything and anyone the Power of Destruction

came in contact with vanished, leaving nothing behind. Not even the weapons and equipment players had dropped as they had died had survived the blast...

Everything had happened so quickly that before Heaven's Burial's members could even react, an empty plot of land had been created amidst their massive army. For a time, silence descended on Heaven's Burial's forces as if time itself had frozen.

Zero Wing's members, who stood on Stone Forest Town's walls, were just as stupefied by the scene that had just occurred. They hadn't expected Shi Feng to make such a sudden move, not even giving Heaven's Burial's members a second to react. And the results of his attack were even so horrific.

Chapter 1688 – Strength of One Person

The Destruction Crystal had a 1,000-yard radius. The AOE could rival a Tier 5 large-scale destruction Spell.

However, unlike Tier 5 large-scale destruction Spells, the Destruction Crystal destroyed everything it touched on a fundamental level. It did not rely on great power to destroy its targets, and even a small fraction of the Power of Destruction would destroy any player's body it encountered. It would even damage their Immortal Souls and corrode them to a certain extent.

Unfortunately, the Power of Destruction would weaken at the edges as it spread.

Most of the players 500 yards or more from the explosion's epicenter were still alive; some of them were even still standing. Only, they had all been contaminated to varying degrees from their contact with the Power of Destruction. This contamination had significantly decreased their Basic Attributes, and their HPs slowly depleted over time. As for their Stamina and Concentration, they steadily lost both

Although these players were technically still alive, they could no longer add to the force's combat power.

In addition, every player within the radius had lost a drastic amount of their weapons and equipment's durability. All Mysterious-Iron Weapons and Equipment had turned into dust the moment the Power of Destruction had touched it, regardless of how little or how much Power of Destruction they had come into contact with. Not even Secret-Silver Equipment would survive within 300 yards of the epicenter. Only Fine-Gold Equipment had any hope of surviving the contamination within this range. Only Dark-Gold Equipment or better would have survived the contamination within 100 yards of the epicenter. Even so, Dark-Gold Weapons and Equipment within this radius had still lost over one-third of their durability...

All of this had happened in a mere instant, and Heaven's Burial hadn't had any time to react.

The sudden development hadn't only stunned Heaven's Burials' members, but players within Stone Forest Town also gaped at the result.

Heaven's Burial's members were all Level 45 and above. If they died and lost a level, they'd have a challenging time recovering their losses. However, players that had been caught in the blast hadn't only lost levels, but their equipment and weapons had been destroyed as well. This loss was far more severe than losing a single level.

When Heaven's Burial's surviving members saw their weapons and equipment, they nearly fainted.

"Zero Wing is really doomed now..." The spectating players in Stone Forest Town could not help but gasp.

Shi Feng's attack had certainly been extraordinary. With just one attack, he had dealt a heavy blow to Heaven's Burial, killing over 5,000 players and 3,000 Evil Demons. However, the fact remained that Zero Wing had no escape. Shi Feng had only dumped oil on the raging flame of Heaven's Burial's hatred.

Singular Burial, who stood among his army, glared at Shi Feng, radiating killing intent. Even the temperature of the air around him had fallen by a few degrees.

“Black Flame! You asked for this!” Singular Burial then commanded, “Activate the Magic Gnome Cannons and shoot him out of the sky!”

“Guild Leader, are we really going to waste the cannons on him? Weren’t we saving them to deal with Stone Forest Town’s defensive magic array?” Daybreak Fog jumped in, trying to dissuade Singular Burial after hearing his latest order.

The Magic Gnome Cannons were war weapons they had acquired after capturing Ancient Rock City. Each of the cannon’s shots could rival a Tier 3 large-scale destruction Spell. It also dealt increased damage to defensive magic arrays and fortifications. It was a specialized weapon for siege warfare.

However, the Magic Gnome Cannons had limited ammunition, and Heaven’s Burial had spent most of that ammunition while defending Ancient Rock City. Now, they could only fire twelve rounds. Using that ammo on a single target, a player at that, was unwise.

“He is the one asking for it!” Singular Burial growled madly, adamant that his command be carried out.

Hearing Singular Burial’s decisive tone, his Guild member realized how furious the man was.

The players manning the Magic Gnome Cannons at the rear of Heaven’s Burial’s forces then aimed the weapons at Shi Feng and fired.

Boom!

As the first cannon went off, a beam of dark-blue light flew towards Shi Feng, reaching its target in the blink of an eye. The energy beam contained so much power that even the space around it trembled.

“Crap! Singular Burial has lost his mind! He’s actually using a war weapon to deal with a single player?!”

“Black Flame is dead for sure this time. That attack should have a 100-yard radius at the very minimum. No player can dodge that.”

The players watching from within Stone Forest Town were stupefied.

War weapons generally had very long Cooldowns, and the stronger the weapon was, the longer its Cooldown would be. Hence, for efficiency, such weapons were generally used against dense crowds. It was a luxury to fire a war weapon at a single player.

Just as the dark-blue energy beam was about to smash into Shi Feng, he activated Heavenly Dragon’s Power, increasing his HP by 500%, Defense by 300%, Strength by 150%, and Agility by 60%. The intensity of his aura instantly skyrocketed, and it felt as if some primordial beast had just woken from a long sleep.

Following which, Shi Feng swung Killing Ray towards the incoming energy beam.

Lightning Edge!

Countless arcs of lightning flew from Shi Feng's blade, forming a long, blue river that collided with the incoming energy beam.

When the attacks collided, a brilliant radiance illuminated the battlefield. While everyone was momentarily blinded, a strong gust of wind pushed at them. Heaven's Burial's members standing near the collision were even forced to retreat several yards.

After the two attacks fought for supremacy, the Magic Gnome Cannon's energy beam devoured the river of lightning and proceeded to devour Shi Feng.

However, before Singular Burial could cry out in joyous victory, the smoke in the sky scattered and revealed Shi Feng's still-living figure. Shi Feng was actually alive and still hovering in the air. In fact, he was nowhere near dead; he had only lost around one-eighth of his HP.

"He didn't die?"

"How is that possible?!"

Seeing Shi Feng alive and kicking, the players watching from Stone Forest Town were dumbfounded. The eyes of Heaven's Burial's members nearly fell from their sockets when they saw the result of the attacks.

How is this possible? Did he use some Invulnerability Skill? No, that can't be right; he has lost HP. But, if he didn't use an Invulnerability Skill, why did he only lose a little HP? For a moment, Singular Burial failed to comprehend what had just happened.

He had considered the possibility that Shi Feng may have a few methods to dodge the Magic Gnome Cannon's attack. For example, the enemy Swordsman could use an Invulnerability Skill or a Tier 3 Defensive Magic Scroll to block the energy beam. He could also use the Teleportation Skill he had used many times in the past. However, of all the possibilities he had considered, none of them included Shi Feng receiving the attack head-on.

"Continue firing! I refuse to believe he can endure!" Singular Burial gave out the command to attack again, gritting his teeth.

The Magic Gnome Cannon had a 45-second Cooldown, but Heaven's Burial had secured three Magic Gnome Cannons from Ancient Rock City. They still had two more they could rely on.

Suddenly, another Magic Gnome Cannon fired at Shi Feng.

Boom!

Once more, a dark-blue energy beam threatened to devour the hovering Swordsman.

This time, however, Shi Feng did not use an AOE Skill. Instead, he activated Flame Burst and used Killing Ray to block the energy beam.

Once the energy beam had passed, Shi Feng had slid back nearly 20 yards before he stabilized his position in the air. He also lost close to one-sixth of his maximum HP. Although he had fared worse than before, he was still alive and well...

“Attack! Continue attacking him!” Singular Burial commanded, madness flashing in his eyes.

The third Magic Gnome Cannon fired immediately.

Seeing another dark-blue energy beam approach, Shi Feng moved forward to meet it.

Boom!

As the smoke scattered, Shi Feng remained in the air. He also still had more than 50% of his HP...

“Is that it?” Shi Feng asked as he leisurely dusted himself off. Glancing at Singular Burial, he chuckled and wondered aloud, “Are you telling me that this is all Heaven’s Burial is capable of?”

Silence fell on the battlefield as everyone watched Shi Feng

Chapter 1689 – Summoning a High Demon

How is this possible?

Horror filled Singular Burial’s eyes as he stared at Shi Feng. He was very familiar with the Magic Gnome Cannon’s power, and he simply couldn’t accept the fact that Shi Feng had just taken three hits head-on and survived, much less held onto more than 50% of his HP.

Even a Tier 2 MT would be vaporized, even after activating a Lifesaving Skill, if they were struck by the Magic Gnome Cannons.

Yet, three of these powerful weapons' attacks had failed to kill Shi Feng.

"Is he some NPC or a humanoid monster?"

As Heaven's Burial's members looked up at Shi Feng's proud, hovering figure, they were overwhelmed with horror and confusion. The strength Shi Feng had just displayed was beyond players' abilities. This kind of power lingered in the realms of NPCs and monsters. When they thought about how they were supposed to fight such a monster, a chill crawled down their spines.

If not even attacks that could rival Tier 3 large-scale destruction Spells could deal significant damage to this Swordsman, their attacks would be raindrops pelting his skin. Shi Feng's combat standard was also exceedingly high. He wouldn't simply let them attack him like a common monster.

If Shi Feng charged into their army's ranks, the consequences would be unimaginable.

Meanwhile, Stone Forest Town had become eerily silent after its players had witnessed the failed bombardment.

"So, this is the strength of Star-Moon Kingdom's number one expert?"

Although they knew that Shi Feng was Star-Moon Kingdom's publicly acknowledged number one expert and that they were definitely no match for the Sword King, they had never dreamed that the man was

this powerful. Being able to face weapons of war was a feat beyond players. Shi Feng, without a doubt, was a bona fide monster.

After witnessing this, the experts that had planned to challenge Shi Feng and claim the title as Star-Moon Kingdom's number one expert, smiled in self-ridicule as they realized how comical their idea was.

When Shi Feng swept his gaze over Heaven's Burial's members below him, noticing their shocked expressions, his lips curled into a smile.

Although sufficient strength was important in a Guild war, a Guild's morale was just as important. Players plagued by fear and worry wouldn't be able to fight to their full potential, and they'd make senseless mistakes.

In contrast, if a Guild's morale were high, its players would exhibit their full potential and perform better than normal. Trying to defeat an enemy while outnumbered wouldn't be entirely impossible.

It seems that it was quite effective. Shi Feng was very satisfied with his performance when he saw his enemies' overwhelmed expressions.

While war weapons were indeed powerful, they were not unstoppable. Current players were simply too weak to take a hit from such weapons.

Tier 3 large-scale destruction Spells could certainly kill Tier 1 players, and not even Tier 2 players could normally survive such an attack. But what about Tier 3 and Tier 4 players?

Once players reached Tier 3, Tier 3 large-scale destruction spells would only pose a threat; they wouldn't be unstoppable. After reaching Tier 4, players could even shatter a Tier 3 large-scale destruction Spell.

The reason Shi Feng had dared to face the Magic Gnome Cannons' attacks was due to his sufficiently high Basic Attributes and Magic Resistance. In addition, Heavenly Dragon's Power increased his HP and Defense by a significant margin. Most importantly, the Disintegration Armor's Disintegration Field could weaken Skills and Spells above Tier 2 by 60%.

With all of these factors in play, he had chosen to receive the Magic Gnome Cannons' energy beams head-on. Even so, he had still received a considerable amount of damage. However, if anyone else stood in his place, even with the help of the Disintegration Field, they'd either die or barely cling to life after a single attack. Although it appeared that he had only lost a small fraction of his HP, he had boosted his HP by 500% with one of his Skills. Losing one-sixth of that HP was the equivalent to losing as much HP as he normally possessed.

Moreover, receiving Tier 3 large-scale destruction Spells head-on was a considerable burden on his equipment's durability. After three shots from the Gnome Cannons, his Dark-Gold Equipment's durability had fallen by nearly one-quarter. If he received another dozen or so energy beams, all of his items would be destroyed, aside from his Epic and Fragmented Legendary items.

Seeing that Heaven's Burial's members panic, Shi Feng promptly took the Tier 4 large-scale destruction Magic Scroll, which he had obtained after killing Baphomet, from his bag and activated it.

Tier 4 Spell, Dark Prison!

Before Heaven's Burial's members could recover from their shock, a pitch-black ball appeared among the army. This pitch-black ball then expanded, quickly and silently enveloping a 500-yard radius. After remaining motionless for two seconds, the black ball burst, and a towering pillar of black light took its place.

Instantly, all players who had failed to activate Invulnerability Skills died as they were caught within the light pillar.

With this single attack, Heaven's Burial had lost an additional 6,000-plus members...

"Zero Wing, heed my command! Leave town and wipe out Heaven's Burial! Leave none of them alive! Bring the Miniature Ballistas and movement-type defensive magic array!" Shi Feng shouted from his position in the air, his voice echoing across the battlefield.

Upon hearing Shi Feng's command, Zero Wing's members' blood boiled as they roared with power. Under Aqua Rose and the other core members' command, everyone charged out of Stone Forest Town and dashed toward Heaven's Burial's 300,000-strong army. Hundreds of Miniature Ballistas and the movement-type defensive magic array followed closely behind.

"Damn it! How does Black Flame wield this kind of power?"

"We can't win! Black Flame is a monster! I don't want to die!"

Compared to the physical destruction from Shi Feng's Tier 4 large-scale destruction Magic Scroll, the mental blow had been crippling. After seeing so many more of their companions instantly die, many of Heaven's Burial members turned and fled.

Shi Feng had just used two large-scale destruction Spells with such horrific power in a row. Who knew if he had more in store? Moreover, seeing how miserably their Guild members had died had truly terrified them. This was especially true for the first group of players that had fallen to the Destruction Crystal. The attack had even obliterated most of those players equipment.

Shi Feng was basically immortal in their eyes. They couldn't bear to remain in this nightmare for a moment longer.

"Black Flame!" Singular Burial frowned as he watched his army descend into chaos. Hurriedly, he commanded through the team chat, "Send in the Evil Demon army, now!"

"Guild Leader, are we really going to attack now? Blackwater's reinforcements haven't arrived yet. If we start now, I'm afraid that..." Daybreak Fog knew the kind of strength the Evil Demon army possessed. The majority were newly-spawned Evil Demons. While these Evil Demons might be able to slaughter players, they would be mostly useless against the NPC soldiers in Stone Forest Town. They'd struggle to break through the town's defenses with these monsters.

"It doesn't matter!" Singular Burial understood the potential consequences of attack too early as well. However, if they did nothing to recover from the mental blow Zero Wing had just dealt, facing the enemy Guild would become even more difficult. However, very quickly, Singular Burial revealed a sneer as he said, "Zero Wing's members have taken the initiative to leave the town. This is the perfect opportunity to annihilate them! Notify Flame Blood to send in the Mythic ranked Evil Demons and Beasts!"

"Understood!" Daybreak Fog recognized Singular Burial's reasoning. Immediately, she contacted Flame Blood and ordered him to take action.

Immediately, a commotion occurred within the nearby forest. Within seconds, one Level 80 Mythic ranked Evil Demon and four Level 80 Mythic ranked Evil Beasts emerged. As they appeared, their deafening roars reached the battlefield. The pressure they exuded even stole the breath from the nearby Heaven's Burial members.

The sudden inclusion of these Mythic ranked Evil Beasts and Demon discouraged Zero Wing's members.

In contrast, some of Heaven's Burial's morale returned.

"Black Flame, it's time to pay for your arrogance!" Singular Burial smirked when he saw that Zero Wing's army had already moved a considerable distance away from Stone Forest Town. With a wave of his hand, he commanded the Mythic ranked Evil Beasts and Evil Demon to charge into Zero Wing's ranks.

Shi Feng then returned to the ground. Once he landed, he pulled a crystal ball with a golden glow from his bag.

"Come, Baphomet!" Shi Feng shouted. At the same time, 5,000 Magic Crystals vanished from his bag space.

Chapter 1690 – Mythic Showdown

After sacrificing 5,000 Magic Crystals to activate the High Demon's Soul, a gigantic magic array formed before Shi Feng. However, unlike other magic arrays, this one did not absorb Mana from its environment. Rather, Power of Darkness gushed from the array and flooded its surroundings as if it were a portal to the Darkness World.

The dense Power of Darkness quickly formed a layer of dark mist around the magic array. It was so dense that it even dispersed the ambient Evil Energy.

After three seconds of this process, the black mist concentrated into a colossal form.

The moment the mist began to coalesce into this gigantic form, it radiated an overwhelming aura that spread into its surroundings. Moreover, as the body took shape, its aura became stronger.

After another five seconds, Baphomet's 30-meter-tall frame arrived on the battlefield.

However, unlike the Baphomet Shi Feng had killed, this Baphomet was multitudes stronger.

The previous Baphomet had merely been a Level 73 Grand Lord, but the monster before Shi Feng was Level 80 Mythic ranked High Demon. Moreover, due to the Bible of Darkness's Demon Ruler Skill, Baphomet's Basic Attributes increased by another 35%.

...

[Baphomet] (High Demon, Mythic)

Level 80

HP 324,000,000/324,000,000

...

When the Evil Demon army was within 100 yards of Zero Wing's army, Baphomet stopped the ground lightly and disappeared. The High Demon instantly reappeared before the Evil Demons before swiping one of its clawed hands at the monster army.

Boom!

Suddenly, all Evil Demons within 20 yards of Baphomet flew backward. All Elite and Special Elite ranked Evil Demons within Baphomet's attack range were instantly obliterated. Even the Chieftain ranked Evil Demons clung onto life with a small strand of HP...

"So strong!" Zero Wing's members, who were charging into battle, could not help but gasp when they saw this.

It was obvious that the swipe had been one of Baphomet's normal attacks. The High Demon hadn't used an AOE Skill, yet it had instantly destroyed several dozen Evil Demons. The resulting impact had even flattened the previously uneven ground before the High Demon.

Naturally, Baphomet didn't give its enemies the time to react as it swung its other clawed hand.

Boom!

Once more, dozens of Evil Demons died. Several Lord ranked Evil Demons flew through the air as they sustained heavy injuries...

For a time, Baphomet continued on an unstoppable rampage. The High Demon massacred the Evil Demons as if it were squashing on ants. Although the nearby Evil Demons had tried to retaliate,

Baphomet had barely taken damage. The Chieftain ranked Evil Demons only dealt around -300 damage to the High Demon, whereas the Lord ranked Evil Demons dealt around -1,000 damage.

These attacks weren't even a scratch to Baphomet. With its battle recovery, Baphomet regained 3,240,000 HP every five seconds. Furthermore, the Evil Demons didn't have long-ranged attacks. At most, they could launch a few mid-ranged attacks. Although Baphomet was massive, only 200 or so Evil Demons could attack it at one time. Even if Baphomet stood there and did nothing, the Evil Demons couldn't kill it...

In the few seconds since Baphomet had joined the battlefield, the High Demon had killed hundreds of Evil Demons. Among them, over two dozen had been Chieftains, and one had been a Lord.

Although the loss was insignificant compared to Heaven's Burial's 100,000-strong force of Evil Demons, Singular Burial's expression twisted as he watched the High Demon's slaughter. He had never expected Zero Wing to have a trump card like this.

He had assumed that Zero Wing would summon Divine Dragons as it had during their previous war. If that were the case, he intended to sneak the Mythic ranked Evil Demon's past Zero Wing's defenses to target the magic array that summoned the Dragons directly. However, it was a different story if Shi Feng summoned a Mythic monster with an item. Dealing with Baphomet wouldn't be easy.

"Send two Mythic Evil Beasts to hold that Demon back! The Mythic Evil Demon will go after Black Flame! I want to see how Zero Wing intends to defeat us!" Singular Burial commanded.

Evil Demons were best against players. Although Shi Feng was not an easy target, he was a small pest, slightly larger than his companions, before a Mythic ranked Evil Demon.

Two of the four Mythic ranked Evil Beasts turned toward Baphomet, whereas the Mythic ranked Evil Demon charged at Shi Feng.

However, before the Evil Demon could reach Shi Feng, a gigantic figure intercepted it. This figure belonged to none other than Baphomet.

Baphomet was 30 meters tall., and the Mythic ranked Evil Demon was only five meters tall. The High Demon loomed over the Evil Demon like a building.

“Do you think you can stop it?” Singular Burial sneered.

A Mythic ranked Evil Demon’s combat standards were even superior to ordinary experts, and its Strength was higher than a Mythic ranked Evil Beast’s. It’s only weakness was its low, 150,000,000 HP. Against players, however, this much HP was more than enough.

Without hesitation, the Mythic ranked Evil Demon brandished one of its claws at Baphomet. As its claw moved, gray mist rapidly enveloped it. Space tore as the claws passed.

Tier 3 Skill, Dark Annihilation Claw!

Although the attack was only a Tier 3 Skill, the Evil Demon’s overwhelming Strength and speed improved it.

Seeing the approaching attack, Baphomet swung one of its own clawed hands to meet the attack, rather than try to dodge.

Boom!

When the two claws collided, space around them shattered. The ground below the collision sank, while nearby Evil Demons were thrown through the air. Evil Demons below Chieftain rank and within 20 yards of the impact died instantly from the resulting shockwaves...

After the two Demons pushed against each other for a few seconds, the Dark Annihilation Claw's effects vanished, and the Mythic ranked Evil Demon was forced back by five steps before it stabilized itself. The difference between the two monsters' Strength was obvious at a glance.

The Heaven's Burial members that had brimmed with fighting spirit were stupefied, especially Singular Burial.

How is any of this possible? How can that thing stop the Evil Demon's Tier 3 Skill with a normal attack?

Singular Burial simply could not understand how a Demon could possess such horrific Strength that not even a Mythic ranked Evil Demon could compete with it.

However, Singular Burial quickly recovered his senses. Baphomet was only one creature, and he had a total of five Mythic monsters under his command. Even if Baphomet were more powerful, it couldn't stop five Mythic monsters at once. As long as they killed Shi Feng, Baphomet would vanish.

Singular Burial immediately contacted Flame Blood, who controlled the Mythic monsters in secret, and instructed him to send all five to kill Shi Feng. He also told Flame Blood to keep the other Evil Demons away from Baphomet as much as possible, focusing on Zero Wing's members.

As Singular Burial had expected, although Baphomet was powerful, it couldn't stop five Mythic monsters of the same level. It took everything the High Demon had to pin down one Evil Demon and two Evil Beasts.

However, Zero Wing's army had arrived on the battlefield, and the movement-type defensive magic array enveloped Shi Feng in its protection. Meanwhile, several hundred Ballistas launched their payload simultaneously.

The scene of hundreds of Exploding Arrows flying towards their targets was spectacular. The explosion even halted the Mythic ranked Evil Beasts' advance for a moment. The weaker Evil Demons began to die in droves.

A single volley of arrows had claimed several hundred Evil Demons' lives.

However, the Evil Demon army launched its own assault against the movement-type magic array. From time to time, the two Mythic ranked Evil Beasts, which had avoided Baphomet's care, snuck past the High Demon to land one or two attacks on the magic array. Heaven's Burial also continued to bombard the array with the Magic Gnome Cannons. With so many attacks against it, cracks began to surface on the magic array's barrier. Fortunately, the array quickly repaired itself, and after this continued for several minutes, Zero Wing had no choice but to replenish the movement-type defensive magic array's energy reserves.

It's still standing? Envy flashed in Singular Burial's gaze as he watched the movement-type defensive magic array. Although it wasn't as strong as the barrier around a city, it could be reactivated the moment after it shattered. *So what if you can withstand the Evil Demon army for now? How many Magic Crystals can you afford to spend?*

"Heaven's Burial, charge! Zero Wing won't last much longer!" Singular Burial shouted.

Heaven's Burial's members could also see that, although Black Flame's previous performance had been stunning, Zero Wing couldn't avoid annihilation.

When Zero Wing's members heard Singular Burial's shout, their expressions darkened. The Evil Demon was already a formidable force. If Heaven's Burial's players joined the fray...

Sure enough, I'm pushing my luck by relying on one Baphomet. The battle's current state didn't particularly surprise Shi Feng. Fortunately, Zero Wing City had accumulated quite a number of Magic Crystals lately. Following which, he retrieved the High Demon's Soul from his bag and sacrificed another 5,000 Magic Crystals to it.

Another gigantic magic array joined the battlefield, and after a few seconds, a new Baphomet manifested within the movement-type defensive magic array.

"Black Flame can summon another one?!"

"This is some trick, right?!"

As Heaven's Burial's members began their charge, they slid to a halt as they gaped at the new Baphomet in utter shock.