

The Good 341

Chapter 341: Cave Wolves Mercenary Group's Invitation (1)

While Du Lang was in discussion with his subordinate about the content of the mission, he noticed that Shen Yanxiao, who was supposed to have left the room, was still there, and she was staring at them in deep thoughts.

Du Lang was stunned when he realized that the customer had overheard his conversation with his subordinate.

However, Du Lang had a moment of hesitation when he recalled his previous theory about the customer.

"Dear customer, it looks like you are interested in the Phoenix as well?" Du Lang tried to probe for more information about Shen Yanxiao's curiosity.

The young man's jaw dropped the moment Du Lang spoke to Shen Yanxiao.

Cust... customer!?

Did he mean that the person who had purchased the mid-level magical beast's parts was the little kid in the room?

That was a sum of three thousand gold coins, for goodness sake! That kid did not even look like a wealthy person, no matter how he studied him!

The young man gulped. For mercenaries like him, three thousand gold coins was a rather large amount of wealth.

Shen Yanxiao recovered her senses, but she did not reply to Du Lang for a few brief moments as he looked at her with doubts in his expression.

Why would he ask that so suddenly? Were mercenaries missions supposed to be secrets that could not be revealed to anyone else? Did Du Lang think that she would leak the information to other groups? Or was he worried that she was a member of a rival group and had wanted a cut of their reward?

In a rarely seen move, Shen Yanxiao decided to explain herself so that she could avoid any future trouble. "Leader Du, do not worry. I am not a fellow mercenary. I am merely curious about the Phoenixes. After all, it had been hundreds of years since the Phoenixes disappeared from the Brilliance Continent."

Du Lang laughed and said, "You are overthinking it. I noticed that you seemed rather interested in our conversation about the Phoenixes, so I decided to ask about it. The mission that the client entrusted to us was also distributed to the other mercenary groups. There's really no reason for me to hide anything about that." As a leader, Du Lang understood Shen Yanxiao's concerns.

When Shen Yanxiao realized that Du Lang did not mind her questions, she decided to use that to her advantage. After all, she was their customer, so they probably would not care about a few questions.

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“Do you know the gender of the Phoenix in your mission?” [1. The literal Chinese translation of Phoenix is Feng Huang. Feng refers to a male Phoenix, while Huang refers to a female Phoenix.] Based on what Xiu had told her, she realized that the Phoenixes from that world were similar to the ones in her previous life.

A newly born female Phoenix would be an eighth-rank magical beast while a male Phoenix would be a rank higher.

However, she did not expect that her question would stun Du Lang.

The young man also thought that her question was odd, and so he asked, “What’s the difference? Aren’t they all Phoenixes?”

The young man’s doubt described Du Lang’s reaction.

Shen Yanxiao was speechless. She did not expect that the world’s understanding of the Phoenix would lack to such an extent that they could not even differentiate between the two. [2. In the Chinese text, they are using the words, Feng and Huang, individually. SYX is speechless that they do not know that Feng is a male Phoenix, while Huang is a female Phoenix.]

Du Lang seemed to have recovered his wits when the young man asked that question, so he immediately inquired, “May I ask about the differences between the two Phoenixes that you have mentioned? If you can provide us with some information, we will give you a ten percent discount for all your future missions, if you were to entrust them to us. I can guarantee this as the leader of the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group.” There was so little information about the Phoenixes in that world that no one could conjure a clear image in their minds.

Du Lang had thought that the customer was not as simple as she seemed on the outside. Du Lang’s inherent keen senses even peaked when she asked that particular question.

Chapter 342: Cave Wolves Mercenary Group’s Invitation (2)

It was possible that the customer in front of him had a deeper understanding of the Phoenixes.

The young man stared blankly at the little kid that his leader had asked for assistance. The kid’s height did not even reach the young man’s chest, so the request was so startling that his eyeballs were about to fall out.

Had he seen a ghost in broad daylight, or was it something else?

Did their strong and domineering leader really ask assistance from a little kid? He had even given him a ten percent discount! It was rare that someone would get preferential treatment from the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group, and they could easily count on one hand for those that did.

Had their leader’s brain shut down that day, for him to be that generous?

Du Lang had it all planned out when he gave Shen Yanxiao such a huge discount. Based on that single transaction, he had deduced that Shen Yanxiao was not all she seemed. With his previous theory about her and her questions about the Phoenixes, he concluded that Shen Yanxiao must have been a mysterious expert who had used a secret method to change her physique. It was only natural that a leader like him would want to engage with someone like her.

Of course, Du Lang had not ultimately confirmed his theory, and he could only determine that after he heard her explanation about the Phoenixes.

If Shen Yanxiao really knew about the long-gone secrets of the Phoenixes, then he would have guessed her identity correctly. After all, no one in that world had such knowledge about the magical beasts from the legends.

Shen Yanxiao was somewhat surprised by Du Lang's generosity, but she did not have any intentions to reject him. She was already looking for a Phoenix's nest, so if she could build a good rapport with the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group, perhaps she could ask them to grab a Flame Grass while they headed for the Phoenix's nest.

However, Shen Yanxiao also realized that the people in that world knew very little about the Phoenixes. If she were to reveal everything to Du Lang, it would probably cause trouble for her in the future. Therefore, she exerted caution when she gave her explanation. "I do not know much about the Phoenixes. However, I do know that Feng refers to a male Phoenix, while Huang refers to a female Phoenix." The word 'Phoenix' was the generic term for that magical beast. Similar to the people from her previous world, most of them assumed that the Phoenixes were all males, and they did not even know that there were also female Phoenixes.

Du Lang and the young man stared at Shen Yanxiao when she told them that. Both of them looked surprised at that information too.

It was apparent that they did not know the differences between Feng and Huang before her explanation about that.

Du Lang narrowed his eyes and pondered about it for a moment. Suddenly, he walked toward Shen Yanxiao and said, "I wonder if you are available during this period. I would like to extend a temporary invitation for you to join the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group in this mission. Rest assured that you are not required to participate in fights. We would like it if you can give us some information about Phoenixes at your convenience." Du Lang could almost confirm that the customer with him was not the thirteen-year-old kid he pretended to be.

They would not have found the information that she revealed even if they were to search the entire Brilliance Continent.

How would such a young kid know about that?

The young man was also shocked by Du Lang's invitation, and he even suspected that his leader had been switched! Otherwise, why would their leader invite a young kid to join their group so suddenly?

Chapter 343: Cave Wolves Mercenary Group's Invitation (3)

Furthermore...

He had even used a polite tone when he extended that invitation! [1. There are two types of 'you' used in Chinese writing. 您 = polite, 你 = casual. Both words have the same meaning, but the former is generally used to show respect.]

The leader of the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group was usually known for his pride and arrogance. Even customers with higher statuses did not get the same treatment from him.

However, he had used such a rare polite tone with that kid that day!

Had the world turned into a fantasy novel?! Had the world itself turned into a fantasy?

2It was almost impossible for their leader to be that polite!

The young man's mind was thoroughly confused.

Shen Yanxiao was surprised at Du Lang's invitation. She had also noticed the change in Du Lang's tone. However, she did not know which of her actions had been so significant that the leader would suddenly change his tone with her. She had only revealed a tiny bit of information about the Phoenixes. There was no reason why Du Lang would suddenly treat her with such respect.

"If you are agreeable to that, I can also offer you some compensation. I will also arrange for someone to protect your safety during the entire journey." Du Lang tried to entice her with some better terms. He did not purely do it because of his theory about Shen Yanxiao's identity, but it was mostly due to the importance of the mission.

His subordinate had told him that the mission had assembled more than a dozen mid-sized mercenary groups, and the client had offered a handsome reward for each of those groups. If they could complete the mission, the compensation could possibly exceed the group's half a year's worth of income. Furthermore, the client only required the Phoenix's heart, and the mercenaries were free to take the other parts.

Among those items was the eighth-ranked Phoenix's high-grade magical core!

No one could estimate the price of an eighth-grade magical core. The parts from the Phoenix's corpse would prove to be valuable, too, since it was an extremely rare magical beast from the legends.

If they could complete the mission, then they would get more wealth than what the client would have paid them for it.

After all, the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group was the strongest in the Black City, and none of the other mercenary groups could compare to them.

If they were to travel with someone knowledgeable about the Phoenix, then they would have a much higher chance of completing the mission.

Furthermore, he observed that there was more to that particular customer than what she seemed to be. If he could persuade her to participate in that mission, perhaps they would even get an unexpected reward.

After Du Lang contemplated all the observations that he had made, he elected to make that shocking decision.

Even though Shen Yanxiao did not know why Du Lang insisted on her participation, she could not deny her own interest in that mission.

One could only find the Flame Grass in a Phoenix's nest. She knew that such an item could only be encountered and not found.

However, it was also apparent that Du Lang and his group had received a weird mission. The rank of the Phoenix was definitely not as low as what the mission had declared.

It looked like they would have to face an adult Phoenix in that mission. Even though they had a few hundred men, it was probably still not enough to deal with that beast.

The prospect of getting the Flame Grass enticed her, but the magical beast would prove to be a savage.

If it were anyone else, they would be distressed with such a choice. However, Shen Yanxiao was not worried about that because she had a mythical beast by her side. It could certainly go against an adult Phoenix.

As long as they did not encounter a resurrected Phoenix, the Vermillion Bird would never let anything bad happen to her.

Du Lang had also mentioned that she only needed to provide them with information about the Phoenix. She would not need to be involved in any fight. She should be able to take advantage of the situation to sneak into the Phoenix's nest to steal the Flame Grass.

Chapter 344: Mercenary Group's Temporary Member (1)

After she weighed her options carefully, Shen Yanxiao could not find a single reason to reject his offer.

"Sure, when would you like to set off?" She predicted that she would be able to get a lot of yield from that little trip to the Phoenix's nest. However, she would still need an excuse for her leave of absence from the two divisions.

With her abilities, she could only learn a limited number of skills during her first year at the Archer Division and the Herbalist Division. A few days of absence from classes should not matter much to her. When she compared the few classes that she would have to miss with the mission, Shen Yanxiao knew that the Flame Grass was the more important task.

The earlier she could gather all three plants, then the faster Xiu could regain his strength to assist her in undoing the seal.

Du Lang smiled and said. "We will be setting off from the Black City in five days."

Shen Yanxiao nodded in agreement. After she made the necessary verbal agreements with Du Lang, Shen Yanxiao finally left the Mercenary Guild.

The young man, who had stood frozen to the spot, finally regained his senses when Shen Yanxiao left the room.

“Leader, why did you invite that little kid to join our mission? He’s just a little kid, what can he do?” The young man felt vexed about the situation. The members in the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group were all elites, and a thirteen-year-old little kid could hardly compare to any one of them. However, Du Lang had offered to take the kid with them on the mission, and he even promised to assign someone to guard the kid’s safety. It was simply too inconceivable for him.

The mission was to deal with a high-level magical beast from the legends itself, and thousands of mercenaries had been included in that mission. It was easy to discern the difficulty of the mission by that point alone. So why would the leader bring a deadweight with them? What was he thinking?

Du Lang shot a glance at the pessimistic young man and said, “I have my reasons. In time, you will see. Let’s head back and discuss the mission with our brothers.”

Even though the young man had tons of questions, he did not dare to question the leader. He could only murmur under his breath and did not comment any further.

After Shen Yanxiao left the Mercenary Guild, she also left the Black City immediately. She returned to the casino to give the items to Qi Xia. She also told him about the duration between the time of death for the beasts.

Since they had two days to spare, Qi Xia told Shen Yanxiao that they did not need to put a rush on their plans. Therefore, they only did some of the preparation that night. Then they decided to infiltrate the medicine storage room the next night.

As night fell the next day, two stealthy silhouettes snuck into the courtyard of the medicine storage room.

Tang Nazhi and the others had wanted to follow them, but Shen Yanxiao had vetoed their plan.

As there were quite a few guards near the storage room, she already had a problem with bringing Qi Xia with her. If she were alone, she could easily avoid everyone’s line of sight. However, since she had Qi Xia with her, she had to be extra cautious with her movements. If she were to bring the other three animals along, they would have been discovered the moment they arrived at the storage room.

Shen Yanxiao had the Moonlight Necklace with her to conceal her aura so that the guards could not sense her presence. Qi Xia was a gifted magus, so he had his own methods to hide his aura.

Things progressed smoothly as they worked with each other. They took advantage of the ten minutes when the guards change shifts for Qi Xia to swiftly unlock the nonagon magical arrays on the doors. When she got in, Shen Yanxiao used the shortest time possible to swipe a large number of precious ingredients from the medicine storage room.

Shen Yanxiao was cautious with her actions, and she only took two or three stalks of a single type of medicinal ingredients. She did not take any ingredients that had only one in stock so that they would not get caught.

Chapter 345: Mercenary Group’s Temporary Member (2)

They were very quick with their actions, so they did not attract anyone's attention. Shen Yanxiao had also been very conservative with the number of ingredients that she had taken so that it would not arouse anyone's suspicion. When she deemed that she had gotten enough, they immediately left the storage room.

The guards on shift did not even notice that someone had trespassed into the medicine storage room. However, a few hundred stalks of medicinal ingredients had been taken without anyone's notice. Compared to the tens of thousands of precious ingredients in the storage room, the few hundred that Shen Yanxiao had swiped were quite negligible.

Shen Yanxiao had managed to check an item off her list of tasks once she got the medicinal ingredients. She had relied on the Saint Laurent Academy's large medicine storage room to get her hands on more than half the ingredients for the Blood Banquet Potion. She would just have to continue in search of the other twenty-plus medicinal ingredients.

Anyway, she had more important things to handle before that.

The Cave Wolves Mercenary Groups' invitation was like a pie that fell from the skies. When she returned to the dormitory, she laid on the bed and tried to calm her mind so that she could enter her spiritual consciousness for a discussion with Xiu.

Shen Yanxiao sighed when she saw Xiu's ice-cold and yet bewitching appearance.

"Xiu, what do you think about that mission?"

Xiu's captivating golden eyes narrowed before he said, "There are two possibilities. One, the client knows nothing about the real strength of the Phoenix. Second, they hid that information deliberately so that they can use the mercenaries to capture the beast. However, from the look of things, scenario one is not very likely. Since they know the location of the beast, we can assume that they have exchanged blows with it. They may already know its real strength."

Shen Yanxiao nodded and said, "I, too, think that the possibility of the second scenario is higher. If the Phoenix is comparable to a mythical beast, then those mercenary groups would never stand a chance. Those at advanced-level might be able to deal some light damage. However, those at intermediate-level would not be able to harm it even if the Phoenix did not offer any resistance."

"I also think that it is weird that the client would spend so much money to employ those mercenary groups." Shen Yanxiao touched her chin. There was definitely something amiss with the mission, and the client even dared to think about taking on a magical beast that had the same strength as a mythical beast. It was not the typical thought process of an average person.

"It's pointless to rely on those mercenary groups to deal with an adult Phoenix. I believe that the client must have something up their sleeves if they even dared to entertain such thoughts." Xiu narrowed his eyes.

Both of them were extremely smart, and that was why they could see through the mission with only a little discussion between them.

“Who cares about them? I only want the Flame Grass. If they were to fight the Phoenix, it still doesn’t have anything to do with me.” Shen Yanxiao felt indifferent about that because her primary objective was not the Phoenix but the Flame Grass instead. She was confident with her thieving skills, so she knew that she would not slip. As long as it is something she wanted, even the Vermillion Bird was not an obstruction.

With that in mind, Shen Yanxiao looked at the quiet Vermillion Bird who stood at the side.

The subject of her attention glared at her with a displeased expression.

He was a mythical beast, and he simply could not bear for someone to ignore him for so long.

Unfortunately, his master baffled him. She could let him out occasionally, but it was either to steal something for her or to run some errands. He even had to find medicinal ingredients for her. Those were not things that a mythical beast should do!

Chapter 346: Mercenary Group’s Temporary Member (3)

“Vermillion Bird, how confident are you if you were to fight an adult Phoenix?” Shen Yanxiao had no choice but to make more plans.

The Vermillion Bird snorted and said, “The Phoenix and I are both fire-elemental magical beasts. If both of us are at the level of a mythical beast, then we can only compare our ranks. Right now, I am at the peak of a twelfth-ranked mythical beast. As long as it has not had a resurrection, then there’s no need to worry.”

With the Vermillion Bird’s guarantee, Shen Yanxiao did not need to fret more about that. If they had to fight the Phoenix, then she would leave as soon as she obtained the Flame Grass. With the Vermillion Bird’s protection, would she even have to worry about that?

After she reviewed her bargaining chips, Shen Yanxiao determined that the trip was quite safe for her to attend.

However, as a precaution, she decided that she had to be mindful of the client. Her gut told her that the client’s action to employ the mercenary groups had been a weird choice.

Over the next four days, Shen Yanxiao traveled back and forth between the three divisions. Ye Qing had begun to teach her some skills in preparing the medicinal ingredients. Her proficiency in concocting potions had also gradually increased over those days.

On the fourth day, Shen Yanxiao told her mentors, Ye Qing and Yun Qi, that she had to make a trip home, and thus she needed to take a leave of absence.

Furthermore, she had also prepared more than a dozen junior and intermediate-level potions to avoid any unfortunate mishaps during the journey.

Of course, she did not forget to bid those heartless bastards a fond farewell before she left. They were not the least suspicious about her actions. Instead, they waved goodbye and told her to bring souvenirs with her when she was due back.

After she had settled everything, Shen Yanxiao could finally unwind in peace.

Shen Yanxiao was supposed to meet with Du Lang the next morning, so she got up early and left the Saint Laurent Academy. Then she changed her appearance and attire in a hotel in the Black City.

When Shen Yanxiao walked on the streets of the Black City, her dull disguise and simple attire did not attract any unwanted attention.

Furthermore, the entire Black City's attention was focused on a particular event.

Early in the morning, a large number of mercenaries from different groups had gathered in the public plaza. The numbers grew from a dozen to the hundreds. Finally, there were more than a thousand people there. All the citizens' attention was on that large-scale gathering of mercenaries in the Black City.

Soon after that, someone finally realized that all the mercenaries at the public plaza were from mid-sized mercenary groups in the Black City. None of them were from a small-sized group. It seemed like all the members from all mid-sized mercenary groups had gathered there that morning.

Everyone was curious about the reason for their large-scale gathering.

Some well-informed people managed to get some information from a few scattered mercenaries. They heard that a single client had employed all of the mercenaries, and their objective was to kill a high-level magical beast.

Those who heard the news were flabbergasted. How much did the client spend on that many mercenaries? Did the client have too much money?

Regular clients would only employ one to two mid-sized mercenary groups for a single mission. Even then, the compensation was not a small amount.

Furthermore, the client only hired mid-sized groups for the mission. They did not accept a single small-sized group.

While the entire city was in a discussion about the gathering, a small lone figure walked through the crowd toward the plaza where the mercenaries had gathered.

Chapter 347: Seven Wolves (1)

More than a dozen mid-sized mercenary groups had gathered at the public plaza, and each group had occupied a particular area. The most prominent group there was the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group.

Their numbers could not compare to some similar-sized groups as they had always had the least members.

However, they were also the top mercenary group in the Black City, and no other group had managed to dethrone them.

Du Lang stood at the central area of the plaza with his eighty-plus men. His tall and mighty physique was amplified by the fully back attire that he wore. It made him look pretty heroic. The Cave Wolves

Mercenary Group's elite members stood near him, and all of them seemed as spirited as bright torches. All of them also had a golden and brilliant badge on their chests, and it had the image of a powerful and domineering wolf head on it.

Those eighty-plus people represented the top mercenary group in the Black City. The Cave Wolves Mercenary Group might not have the most members, but their collective strength was the mightiest in the city. They also had the most numbers of high-level skilled mercenaries.

If one had to point out the most fearsome member in that group, that person was the one with the code name Lone Wolf, and that was Du Lang.

He was a twelfth-rank Advanced Swordsman, and he was also only a step away from progressing to the status of a Great Swordsman.

Aside from Du Lang, six other mercenaries in the group were also in the advanced level of their professions. Similarly, all of them had the code name of a wolf.

Those six members included an Advanced Knight named Evil Wolf, an Advanced Archer named Wild Wolf, an Advanced Magus named Magic Wolf, an Advanced Priest called Sleep Wolf, an Advanced Swordsman named Ash Wolf, and lastly, an Advanced Archer named Fire Wolf.

Those six represented the most powerful force in the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group. They could completely crush the other mercenary groups of the same size.

At that moment, all six of them surrounded Du Lang, and even their back profiles looked daunting.

Other mid-sized mercenary groups only had one or two advanced-level mercenaries, but the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group had seven!

Those were the strongest seven wolves in the Black City, and no one dared to provoke them. However, even without the presence of those seven mercenaries, the group's other members also had sufficient strength to induce terror in anyone who dared to provoke them.

They were comparable to a real pack of vicious wolves that could affect fear in other people.

When Du Lang arrived at the public plaza, he had continuously looked around the area, and his behavior aroused the curiosity of the other six wolves by his side.

They learned that their leader had invited another person to join their group for that mission, and they had been somewhat surprised by his action. How powerful must that person be if Du Lang would personally invite them into the group? By their group's standard, ordinary folks would not have the qualifications for Du Lang to look at them, let alone for him to invite them to the mission.

They were very curious about that temporary member. However, regardless of how they asked him, Du Lang would not reveal their identity.

Since Du Lang's eyes kept searching the area, it was apparent that he was looking for that person.

The six wolves could not restrain their curiosity, and so they also stretched their necks to look for possible candidates. One could say that they were obsessively curious about that new temporary member.

Since Du Lang had personally invited them to join the team, the six wolves assumed that the person must have an advanced-level profession. Otherwise, there was no need for that person to be in their group at all.

Chapter 348: Seven Wolves (2)

When all the members of the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group saw what their seven bosses were doing, they started to look left and right too.

The other mercenary groups were curious when they noticed that the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group seemed to be on the lookout for someone.

All seven wolves of the group had already gathered at the public plaza, so who was the person that Du Lang still awaited? Could they have sought assistance from other powerful reinforcement?

If that was the case, how were the other mercenary groups supposed to survive? The seven wolves were already a big headache for all of them. With the presence of the Cave Wolves Mercenary group, they knew that they would receive limited remuneration from that mission. If Du Lang were to invite another person with an advanced-level profession, perhaps they should just cut their losses and walk away from the mission.

The leaders from all of the other mercenary groups kept their focus on the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group. They prayed that Du Land would not recruit another advanced-level expert into their group.

Just as the crowd anticipated the arrival of that mysterious person, a petite figure walked past the spectators who had surrounded the plaza, and slowly walked toward the location where the mercenaries had gathered.

A young and frail-looking had walked into a large group of muscular men. That was an odd scene, indeed. It was akin to how an ignorant little rabbit had accidentally intruded on a pack of lions.

The mercenaries who focused on the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group had noticed the appearance of said little rabbit.

A mercenary poked his leader and asked with uncertainty, "Leader, someone just came over from there. Could that be him?"

The leader turned toward the location that his subordinate had aimed. He thought he would see a behemoth of a person. Instead, he only saw a young child the height of his posterior. He slapped his subordinate in anger and yelled, "Are you kidding me? That kid's waist is not even as thick as my thigh. Unless Du Lang had gone mad, otherwise he's not waiting for a kid. Stop messing around and get lost!"

The mercenary covered the ache on his cheek and walked away with a bitter expression. He looked at the petite figure and felt wronged somehow. However, there was nothing he could but grumbled discreetly.

He knew that Du Lang and his group could not have been waiting for a little kid. However, his leader had asked him to keep an eye out on the surroundings and to inform him if he saw the arrival of

someone new. He had merely followed his orders and reported to his leader when he saw the kid. So why did he get punished for that?

It was all that little kid's fault. Should he not be drinking milk at home? Why the heck was he there?

Just as everyone believed Shen Yanxiao to be a passerby, Du Lang's eyes brightened when he saw her, and he made his way toward her.

Before the six other wolves understood what was happening, they noticed the smile on their leader's face as he walked toward the kid who looked out of place.

"You're here." Du Yanxiao looked at the newly-arrived Shen Yanxiao with a small smile on his face.

Shen Yanxiao looked around the mercenaries in the plaza before she nodded and said, "I have accepted your invitation, so of course, I will keep it."

The plaza had over a thousand people, and all of them went quiet at that very moment. Everyone's focus was on Shen Yanxiao and Du Lang.

It was odd to see the entire plaza in absolute silence.

What had the f*ck happened?

Was Du Lang waiting for that unattractive little kid?

Would someone eventually wake them from that dream?

Was Du Lang also out of his mind? He had led a group of mercenaries looking left and right so early in the morning, just to look for a kid?

Chapter 349: Seven Wolves (3)

"F*ck! Don't tell that the kid is Du Lang's illegitimate son!" One of the mercenary group's leaders wiped his face in surprise as he could not believe the fact in front of his eyes. Did the rumored cold and stern Du Lang run to welcome that kid with a smile on a face? Would the rain turn red too?

It was terrifying to see a savage wolf turned into a gentle and kind man.

Even the members of the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group could not accept the changes they saw in their leader, let alone those leaders.

As for the other six wolves, they were struck speechless as they stood rooted to the spot.

"Don't tell me that the temporary member leader mentioned is that little kid? Sleep Wolf, please tell me that this isn't real. My eyesight must have been obscured. That guy is not our leader!" Evil Wolf's mouth twitched as he stared at Du Lang's back profile with a dumbstruck expression. His body had even stiffened like a bamboo pole.

Sleep Wolf's expression was not much better, and he had not even recovered his voice from shock.

Ash Wolf coughed and asked, "Could the kid be a friend of the leader, and his presence is only a coincidence?" He attempted an excuse to diffuse the tense atmosphere.

"Yes, I think that's possible." Wild Wolf nodded in agreement. They could not imagine that the reinforcement that their leader had found was a thirteen-year-old kid!

Even if he was not a highly-skilled expert, he should at least be an adult!?

What was with that little kid?

Impossible, it was absolutely impossible!

Absolutely, i-m-p-o-s-s-i-b-l-e!

Just as the six of the other wolves struggled with the situation, Du Lang led Shen Yanxiao toward the other members of the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group.

At that very moment, everyone's jaw dropped when they realized that the six other wolves were petrified.

Du Lang seemed as if he was not aware of his subordinates' twisted expressions and after he led Shen Yanxiao to the crowd, he said. "These are the members of my mercenary group, and even though our numbers aren't the most, our strength is definitely the top in the Black City. Therefore, you don't have to worry about your safety."

It was as if Du Lang was not aware of the twisted expressions on his subordinates' faces as he led Shen Yanxiao to the crowd. He said, "These are the members of my mercenary group. Even though we do not have the most members, we are definitely the strongest in the city. Therefore, you don't have to worry about your safety."

Shen Yanxiao looked at the eighty-plus members from the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group. They did look more well-trained than the members from the other groups. Furthermore, she thought there was a faint bloody smell on each of them.

That kind of scent was usually accumulated by those who had hunted magical beasts for a long time.

Du Lang did not exaggerate when he said that his group was more powerful than the other mercenary groups.

However...

At that time, the same spirited mercenaries had a strange expression on their faces.

Their faces twitched as they stared in the same direction as everyone did.

Du Lang's words were to convince Shen Yanxiao of his group's strength, but at the same time, it made the other members feel despair.

Oh gods, was that little kid the temporary member that Du Lang had mentioned?

Du Lang dragged Evil Wolf, who stood there foolishly and pointed at Shen Yanxiao. "You will be responsible for his safety throughout this mission. You are not to let him get hurt at all."

Evil Wolf did not even get a chance to recover his shock before his handsome face turned bitter when he heard about the task that Du Lang had assigned him. He looked at his leader as though he would weep, but there were no tears. He did not believe that his leader would assign an Advanced Knight like him to babysit a kid!

Chapter 350: Set Off (1)

None of the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group's members understood their leader's decision.

The kid was not only dead weight, but he also needed someone to take care of his safety. That was simply extra work for the rest of them.

That mission required them to cooperate with other mercenary groups to deal with an eighth-ranked magical beast. No one could predict the dangers that they would encounter along the way, nor could they guess the thoughts in Du Lang's mind.

Shen Yanxiao could sense the members' dissatisfaction with her, but they would not go against Du Lang.

Du Lang's command was not something that the group would question, even if they disagreed with his decision. They would never dare to say that out loud.

The leaders from the other groups sighed in relief when they realized that Du Lang had only been waiting for a kid.

The client stated that they only required the Phoenix's heart for that mission. The members were free to distribute the other parts amongst themselves. The Cave Wolves Mercenary Group was the most powerful team in that mission, so if they were to gain even more power from another ally, then the rest of the groups could only get a tiny share of the loot.

The client had prepared a handsome remuneration for those involved, but most of the leaders were more interested in the Phoenix's parts.

Even the Phoenix's feathers would fetch a high price, let alone its magical core.

After all, the Phoenixes had all but disappeared for the past hundreds of years. If they could find one, then any items on its body would undoubtedly attract many buyers.

Every penny that they could get from the Phoenix was worth it.

The sun beamed across the plaza where more than a thousand mercenaries had gathered. They had been waiting for quite some time, but the client had not appeared.

A few moments later, a small group of people walked toward the plaza.

The leader was a tall and strong man, and his simple attire seemed plain. However, anyone with a keen eye would notice that the material was not something a commoner could afford. Twelve black-robed men walked behind him, and all of them wore a blank expression on their faces as they followed their leader orderly.

It was quite easy to notice the presence of such a team at the Black City.

Du Lang stared at the group with a frown. The six wolves behind him noticed their arrival as well.

“Leader, I don’t think they’re as simple as they appear. From the looks of their aura and posture, they could be in our line of work,” Magic Wolf whispered.

Du Lang nodded at that information. Those groups of people did not look like ordinary folks. However, they did not look familiar, and he knew that they were not mercenaries based in the Black City.

“We shall wait and see.”

The thirteen men walked to the plaza in a grandiose manner, and all of the mercenaries kept their stares at them.

The leader surveyed the mercenaries around him before he crossed his arms and shouted, “All of you are here for a single mission, and I was the one who issued it.”

The mercenaries at the plaza were stunned when he said that. They had not expected the group of aggressive-looking people to be their clients.

Some of the leaders could even guess the level of their strength from the way those thirteen people moved.

The man continued to say, “I have invited all the mid-sized mercenary groups in the Black City for the sole purpose of this mission. I do not care about your past disagreements, and I do not want anyone causing trouble for the duration of the mission.”