

The Good 481

Chapter 481: Uncle Nine (2)

Shen Yanxiao stared at the two men with suspicion as they left.

He fell and skinned his back?

Such an explanation might be able to fool an ordinary kid. However, Shen Yanxiao was well aware that the wound on Ah Ke's back did not come from a fall. That was a mark from an injury caused by fire-elemental magical powers.

From the wound's state of recovery, Ah Ke must have been wounded about half a month ago.

That coincided with the time when the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group had been attacked there.

Shen Yanxiao was certain that one or a few of the magi from the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group had inflicted the wound on Ah Ke's back.

However, what Uncle Nine claimed was that Ke hurt himself by accident.

She had thought it was a strange wound when she saw it on Ah Ken's back. She even observed Ah Ke's reaction when Uncle Nine explained about the injury. He had acted normal, and when Uncle Nine stated that he had slipped by accident, Ah Ke appeared to be embarrassed, as if everything had happened, as Uncle Nine had said. There was no expression of guilt on his face at all.

Ah Ke seemed simple-minded, so he could not have faked that reaction even if he wanted to keep the pretense.

Was he also convinced that he had received that wound from an accidental slip?

Shen Yanxiao frowned at that strange situation.

Ah Ke did not look as if he had lied, and at the same time, Shen Yanxiao was sure she had been right about the origin of the wound.

She must have missed an essential point about the situation.

While Shen Yanxiao was deep in her thoughts, Old Ba had arrived with some big summer radishes in his arms. Ah Ke had tasked him to bring some food for Shen Yanxiao and the Vermillion Bird.

"The two of you must be starving. Have some radishes, and I also have some pancakes with him. Go ahead and grab a quick bite," Old Ba said as he put the food on the table. He sounded joyful.

Shen Yanxiao squinted as she picked up a radish and sincerely said, "Thank you, Uncle Ba."

Old Ba chuckled and scratched his head shyly.

There were no other children in their village. So, they cared about the delicate and young lives in their midst that day.

"You are very welcome. Where are Ah Ke and Uncle Nine?" Old Ba asked when he did not see the other two in the room.

Shen Yanxiao rolled her eyes. She took a bite of the radish and said, "Uncle Nine took Uncle Ke to another room to apply some medicine on his back. Uncle Ba, that wound on Uncle Ke's back looked so scary. He must have been hurt pretty badly."

Old Ba replied with a laugh, "It is nothing. Ah Ke is a fool. He snuck out in the middle of the night and wandered around. Then he accidentally fell and ended with that wound on his back. It's just some chafed skin, nothing serious. It looks a bit creepy to the eyes, but don't be afraid."

"Is it a serious injury?" Shen Yanxiao acted as if she was nervous about it while she pondered about Old Ba's words. Did he also believe that Ah Ke received that wound in a fall?

"No, it is not a serious injury. Oh, kids like you tend to get all stirred up over nothing. Well, I also have a huge cut on my arm. See?" To prove that Ke's wound was nothing serious, Old Ba rolled up his sleeve to show Shen Yanxiao the scar on his left arm.

A mark from a knife cut laid across half of Old Ba's thick arm.

"Uncle Ba, what happened to you?" Shen Yanxiao gasped.

Old Ba laughed as he replied, "Well, I tend to roll around in my sleep, and one night, I fell to the ground. I got this cut from a rock on the ground. But, as you can see, I am well. Everything's alright!" Old Ba laughed.

Chapter 482: Uncle Nine (3)

Cut by a rock...

Shen Yanxiao frowned. It was obviously a knife wound, cut by either a swordsman or a knight. The wound looked healed, but it looked deep, as it had cut to the bone.

No other normal person would have regarded it as a wound cut by a rock.

It was clear as day that a Magus and a Swordsman gave Ah Ke and Old Ba their wounds, respectively. How come they had accepted such appallingly ridiculous reasons so readily?

That was rather odd.

"Uncle Ba, were you and Uncle Ke wounded at night?" Shen Yanxiao asked in a sweet voice so that she could get more information.

Old Ba nodded and answered without withholding any information, "Yes, it happened at night. We were not the only ones injured. Many people in our village have some wounds and injuries, but none of them are serious injuries. Uncle Nine said that it is because we are close to some graveyard, so the Ying Qi is quite heavy. Some unclean things will come out at night to create troubles. That is why the injury happens. Fortunately, they are nothing serious. We are quite used to it." He did not even sense that something was amiss.

On the other hand, Shen Yanxiao found the tale even odder when she heard more about it.

She did not think that Old Ba had lied to her. It did not sound right that all the villagers would be wounded at the same time at night. Shen Yanxiao knew that they did not get the injuries from some supernatural entity but their battle against the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group.

However, why did it seem that the villagers had no recollections about it at all?

They did not even think anything of the hideous wounds. If it were someone else, they would have been bedridden due to the injuries. None of them would still be so full of vigor as Old Ba and Ah Ke. Shen Yanxiao would not even think they were injured had she not seen their wounds herself.

Shen Yanxiao was still pondering about that question when a grain of dust fell onto her nose.

Before she was aware of what had happened, Old Ba jumped forward and picked up Shen Yanxiao and Vermillion Bird and carried them toward the door.

The next second, huge bundles of straws fell from the roof and onto the spot where Shen Yanxiao and the Vermilion Bird had stood just moments ago.

"I believed I mentioned that Uncle Nine's house needs some fixing. When will this end if the situation goes on like this?" Old Ba looked at the bundles of straws on the ground. Shen Yanxiao could tell that he was accustomed to it. He just mumbled something randomly.

He carried Shen Yanxiao and the Vermilion Bird in his arms. Even though he was carrying two people, he did not look stressed about it. It was as if he had two pieces of tofu in his hands.

A grown man might be able to react fast enough to drag two people away within a short period. However, he could not have been able to lift them in the air so easily.

When Shen Yanxiao saw his speed, she deduced that Old Ba was no weaker than an intermediate-level expert. At the same time, she could not detect any battle aura and magical power in Old Ba.

"Those villagers, some of them had enormous strength..." Du Lang's voice echoed in Shen Yanxiao's mind. She squinted her eyes.

It seemed like Du Lang had been truthful about the incident.

What could have hidden in that impoverished little village that made everything there so bizarre?

The baffling riots, the ignorant villagers, the old man with infinite strength, and the unimaginably odd causes of wounds...

Chapter 483: Night Fell (1)

Not long after that, Uncle Nine and Ah Ke came back out from the room. The two chatted with Old Ba when they saw him.

Uncle Nine invited Shen Yanxiao and Vermillion Bird to stay at his house for the time being and promised that he would find a way to send them back the next morning.

"Thank you, Uncle Nine." Shen Yanxiao extended her appreciation with a smile, even as questions piled in her mind.

“Don’t worry. Even if we can’t find a way to send you back tomorrow, the people delivering our crops will be here in a few days. We can ask them to send you home as well,” Ah Ke said with a smile.

“It is a pity that we cannot leave the village. Otherwise, I could send you back today.” Old Ba sighed. He wanted to help the two children find their family as soon as possible.

“You cannot leave the village?” Shen Yanxiao was surprised to hear that.

“Old Ba, it is already so late, you should get on with your business. I will take care of the two kids here.” Old Ba was about to explain when Uncle Nine interrupted him. What great timing!

“Yes, of course. Then we shall take off now.” Old Ba and Ah Ke left after they said their goodbyes to Uncle Nine.

Uncle Nine brought Shen Yanxiao and the Vermillion Bird to a small cabin next to the house. The cabin was so small that it could only house a simple bed.

“You can sleep here tonight. Don’t go out at night if you don’t have to; the Ying Qi in our village is very heavy. I’d hate to see you two get scared by some ghastly things,” Uncle Nine told them kindly.

“We won’t!” Shen Yanxiao and Vermillion Bird nodded as if they would give their full cooperation.

Uncle Nine had other business to attend to, so he left them by themselves after that.

Shen Yanxiao and the Vermillion Bird were the only ones left in the room. The little Phoenix, who had been hiding in Vermillion Bird’s hair, snuck out when Uncle Nine left. It fluffed its feathers and stared at the strange environment with wide eyes.

“People in this village are odd,” the Vermillion Bird said as he sat crossed-legged on the bed.

“Are you planning to stay in the village? How would you get to the Graveyard of the Sun if they send you away?”

Shen Yanxiao looked around the few things in the room.

Shen Yanxiao answered quietly, “I will not stay here, of course. Yes, I think the people here are strange too. However, if we were to get to the Graveyard of the Sun, we must pass through this village. It seems like there are many villagers here in the day. If we were to go now, something might go wrong. So, let’s sneak away tonight.”

People in the village appeared to be quite friendly. However, they were vigilant as they remembered the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group’s experience. Shen Yanxiao could not guarantee that it would be a trouble-free journey if she were to head toward the Graveyard of the Sun during the day. She would rather sneak out than to expose her intention to the villagers. She did not want to make herself a target.

It would be perfect if the villagers would not stop her from going to the Graveyard of the Sun. However, if they did, then Shen Yanxiao wanted to take every precaution to avert any danger.

Thieves were always better protected at night.

Shen Yanxiao did not spend more time thinking about it since she had made up her mind. She would play it by ear. She had the Vermillion Bird with her, so she could easily make her escape in case of a dangerous situation.

However, she still had a hard time picturing those kind and humble villagers as violent thugs.

The night eventually cast its shadow over the small village. The villagers, who had been busy all day long, put away their farming tools and returned to their homes.

Shen Yanxiao sat by the window. She watched as the day left and the night fell. Calmness glistened in the depth of her eyes.

Chapter 484: Night Fell (2)

The darkness of the night had quietly fallen.

Shen Yanxiao sat in the room as she waited for her opportunity to arrive.

The Vermillion Bird obediently stayed with her, too, as he waited for his master to make a move.

Shen Yanxiao was about to take action when noises outside the window surprised her. Suddenly, Uncle Nine pushed the door open and stepped into the room.

Uncle Nine had a blank expression on his aged face. When he looked at the two children in the room, he said, "Something is happening out there, and I need to take care of it. Stay in the room, and do not step outside. The night is unsafe."

Shen Yanxiao nodded obediently.

Uncle Nine immediately left after that.

As he turned to leave, Shen Yanxiao could smell a faint blood scent off him.

Shen Yanxiao squinted. As soon as Uncle Nine was out of the door, she cracked open the door.

"Vermillion Bird, did you smell that?" Shen Yanxiao asked.

The Vermillion Bird sniffed.

"A scent of herbs and a trace of blood?" Mythical beasts had an acute sense of smell. He had managed to capture that hint of blood amid such a potent scent of herbs.

Shen Yanxiao frowned. There was something strange about the village, indeed. She moved to the window and attempted to look through it.

Under the moonlight's cover, she saw black shadows rushed along the streets in the village. Those black shadows moved so fast that she could not tell what they were.

"Let's go and take a look." Shen Yanxiao had a feeling that something was wrong with Uncle Nine. She did not feel any viciousness in him. However, it did not seem right that he would interrupt Old Ba's words previously, and then she smelled that hint of blood on him.

Shen Yanxiao took advantage of Uncle Nine's departure and followed the scent of blood further into the house.

Eventually, she found the source of the bloodied smell. It seemed like it had originated from a slab stone at the corner of the kitchen.

The Vermilion Bird moved his finger, and the slab stone lifted. A dark, paved path appeared in front of them.

"Wait here and tell me if someone comes back." The moment the slab stone was lifted, the smell of blood became increasingly potent. Shen Yanxiao decided to go down there and check it out herself. Perhaps she would be able to learn why the village was so odd.

The Vermilion Bird nodded.

Shen Yanxiao took a piece of light crystal from her interspatial ring. With that light, she descended onto the paved path.

The narrow staircase led straight to the underground. As she ventured downward, the smell of blood got stronger. It was mixed with the fragrance of herbs.

She went downward until she came to a small stone chamber. It was less than 20 square meters, and it had four plank beds. Four unconscious men laid on those beds, respectively.

There were countless of gallipots of various sizes on both sides of the chambers. Shen Yanxiao could tell from the smell of the herbs that there were medicinal ingredients in them that were used to treat wounds.

She walked toward the four beds, and thanks to the light crystal, she could clearly see the four men.

The men looked to be in their twenties, and they all had cuts on their faces. From the state of the wound, Shen Yanxiao deduced that they were wounded about half a month ago. According to the medicinal stains on injuries, it looked as if those people had been treated for quite some time.

Shen Yanxiao thought it was rather strange to see four unconscious young men in Uncle Nine's basement.

She was even more shocked when she found the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group's badges on them!

Chapter 485: Night Fell (3)

Were those men mercenaries from the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group?

Du Lang had mentioned that they encountered a surprise raid in the small village. Even though most of them managed to escape, a few were too severely injured to do so. Du Lang was convinced that they had passed away.

However, the four people in the chamber were still alive, even though they looked weak. It did not look like they were in any mortal danger. Their injuries had probably exhausted them to the point of unconsciousness.

Did Uncle Nine save all of them?

If he did, then he must have known about the attack on the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group.

Shen Yanxiao was sure that he knew why the village was so strange.

However, why did Ah Ke and Old Ba act as if they had no recollection about the attack?

More questions began to pile up. The only thing that Shen Yanxiao was certain was that Uncle Nine kept some secrets, but it did not look like he was a bad person. He would not have saved those four people otherwise, and it did not look like he wanted anyone to know about their presence in his basement.

Could someone from the village want to harm them?

Shen Yanxiao frowned. It was difficult for her to picture the villagers here as vile characters. On the other hand, she did not find any other suspicious people there as well.

Without any answer to those questions, Shen Yanxiao had even more doubts about Uncle Nine.

That itself made the mysterious village even more unfathomable.

Shen Yanxiao pondered more about the situation at hand. At the moment, she had no further plans for the four people that she had found. She still had to go to the Graveyard of the Sun. If she were to wake them up now, then she would not be able to proceed with her initial plan. Other accidents might happen too.

Uncle Nine hid them well, and he protected them. At least they were safe there.

Shen Yanxiao would never leave them behind. Therefore, she had decided that she would find a way to take them with her after she obtained the Skeleton Flower from the Graveyard of the Sun.

As she made up her mind, Shen Yanxiao took four bottles of healing potions from her interspatial ring and fed them with it so that they could recover faster.

When she had the chance, Shen Yanxiao checked out the rest of the basement, but she found nothing else apart from the gallipots.

Then, she decided to leave the basement. She met up with the Vermilion Bird in the kitchen, and they placed the slate slab back into its original position.

“Let’s go.” Shen Yanxiao glanced at the Vermilion Bird. In any case, she must go to the Graveyard of the Sun and find the Skeleton Flower there.

It was the dead of the night, and the comfort that came with the day had faded into the background. Darkness enveloped the ground, and freaky animal howls and wails echoed under the night sky. It shattered the silence of the night.

When Shen Yanxiao and the Vermillion Bird left Uncle Nine’s house, the only sound that lingered in their ears was apprehensive bellows.

It sounded as if those noises came from the village entrance. Deep-hearted roars were mingled with screams of terror.

It was hard to imagine that such awful sounds would come to such a quiet and peaceful village.

Stories of Cave Wolves Mercenary Group's attack surfaced in Shen Yanxiao's mind. She squinted her eyes in an attempt to see in the dark. She had doubts about the situation, but she still needed to go to the Graveyard of the Sun. That was their ultimate goal.

Without any hint of hesitation, Shen Yanxiao and the Vermillion Bird hid in the darkness as they dashed toward the other end of the village.

Chapter 486: See No Evil (1)

As they ran past some of the houses in the village, Shen Yanxiao and the Vermillion Bird saw many people as they ran in desperation.

They were a group of men who looked to be in the prime of their age. Based on how they dressed, Shen Yanxiao deduced that they were a team of mercenaries. However, they did not look like hot-blooded warriors at that moment. All of them looked ghastly pale as they ran for their lives. It also looked like they had similar wounds on their body, and it looked as if sharp claws had made those wounds. The injuries cut through their clothes and into their flesh. Red liquid oozed from their wounds and yet none of them stopped to dress the cuts.

Shen Yanxiao finally understood the reason for that. She saw some crazy dark shadows chasing those men from behind. When they had a chance, they would jump on the mercenaries as they ran for their lives at an incredible speed.

Shen Yanxiao and Vermilion Bird found a low-rise thatched cottage that they could hide in.

However, what they saw next shocked them greatly!

They could finally see the real appearance of those black shadows under the moonlight. It was the villagers! They roared as they chased after the mercenaries with their farming tools. The villagers had a dull expression in their eyes, but they had looked ferocious! They leaned forward, just like the preying beasts.

Shen Yanxiao saw Ah Ke and Old Ba, the two men that she met in the day, amongst that group of insane villagers.

The two of them had no weapon in their hand. That was probably because they had to use them to run around the village on all four limbs.

It looked like the kind and pleasant villagers had turned into animals under the moonlight. It was a nightmare for everyone involved!

Shen Yanxiao took a deep breath. The kind villagers that she had met in the day had turned so savage and violent at night. She found such contrast was too difficult to accept.

She finally understood what had happened to the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group that night. It was an utter shock!

Who would have known that the kind villagers would transform into beast-like behavior after night fell?

Shen Yanxiao could imagine what the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group had gone through the night of the attack.

Some of the mercenaries would scream in terror and desperation every few moments. They also tried to summon their magical beasts to deal with those crazy villagers. However, the villagers had ignored those magical beasts. It was as if they could not see them! They ran past the magical beasts and rushed toward the mercenaries instead.

The magical beasts attacked the villagers at their master's command. Still, the villagers ignored the magical beasts and did not fight back them all. Their angry eyes were still fixated on the mercenaries. The villagers ran amok as they completely ignored any magical beast that stood in their way.

It was as if they saw nothing else other than the mercenaries. Everything else was only the air that they breathed.

Shen Yanxiao looked at the situation with a heavy heart.

It seemed like the villagers had caught every one of the mercenaries. Based on the look on the villagers' faces, she could only assume what had happened to them.

She had no idea what triggered the villagers into that state, and she did not have the time to think about that.

She had a feeling she knew why that had happened, though. Whether it was the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group or the mercenaries she had just seen, it was likely that they were on their way to the Graveyard of the Sun. The village existed so its inhabitants could stop those who wanted to go to the Graveyard of the Sun!

Chapter 487: Temple of the Sun (1)

The villagers focused their attention on the mercenaries, which was great for Shen Yanxiao. She could make use of that opportunity to make haste toward the Graveyard of the Sun from that end of the village.

Shen Yanxiao wanted to get the Skeleton Flower as soon as she could and then rescue the Cave Wolves Mercenary Group's members from the village. Even though she was curious about the nature of that weird village, she had no time to wonder about it.

There were simply too many bizarre things in the world, and curiosity would always kill the cat. Sometimes, if one knew too many secrets, it would jeopardize one's life.

When she made up her mind, Shen Yanxiao rushed toward her destination with the Vermillion Bird in tow.

She had only just left the village when its inhabitants caught the rest of the mercenaries.

She could hear cries of dismay and taste the pungent blood smell in the air as it continued to spread in the darkness of the night.

It was not a big village, and Shen Yanxiao and the Vermillion Bird moved speedily. A few moments later, they had arrived at the end of the village. They were at the exit, and they could see the area outside of the village as the moonlight cast its light onto the ground. Nothing grew in the desert, and there were only stones on the hills.

Shen Yanxiao stood at the exit and turned around to look at the village in the dim light of night. That smell of blood in the air had covered the serene and peaceful village with a veil of odd and horrible atmosphere. The mercenaries' bellows had vanished into the night. Only some occasional hoarse roars continued to linger.

Shen Yanxiao lowered her eyes and took a deep breath. She took Vermilion Bird's hand and stepped into the territory of the Graveyard of the Sun. They had finally left the village that was poles apart in the day and at night.

Perhaps someday she would be able to go back there to figure out its secret. It was not the time to do so then!

The Graveyard of the Sun was once a temple that belonged to the God of the Sun. That was the place where his worshippers went to pay tributes to him. The palaces had stood majestically once upon a time ago, surrounded by cheery chirps from the birds and the delicious fragrance of flowers. An endless stream of worshippers would wait there as they begged for the gods to bless them.

The Brilliance Continent got its name because the God of the Sun had favored and blessed the land.

It had always been a continent enveloped by brilliant things, and its people lived in the God of Sun's blessings.

However, all that was good and beautiful were driven into oblivion the moment the battle commenced. The magnificent temple had turned into a battleground for those two mighty races. Their appearance spelled an end to the continent's serenity, and blood and lost souls covered its land.

Severe flames of war had tested the temple. After tens of millions of years, its ancient glory wore down, and the Temple of the Sun became a thing of the past. Gravels pile on the cracked ground, and the area had been off-limits to the humans.

The Graveyard of the Sun covered a vast area; it was as big as a city. It would not be easy to find a small Skeleton Flower in such a deserted place.

Shen Yanxiao and Vermilion Bird stood in the ruins of the Graveyard of the Sun and looked at the big mess in front of them.

"This is where the God of the Sun fell?" Shen Yanxiao at the place in tatters. She could not see past the rubbles and imagine that the site had been the magnificent Temple of the Sun tens of millions of years ago. Yet, she could sense the horror of the battle that had happened there.

"This is where the sun rises, and this is where it sets." The Vermilion Bird was in the air. He had no expression on his face.

It did not matter if it was the gods or the demons who dealt the first fire, as far as the magical beast was concerned, there was no right or wrong between those two races. Magic beasts were only loyal to themselves and their masters.

Chapter 488: Temple of the Sun (2)

One could lose their bearings easily when they were at the chaotic Graveyard of the Sun at night. Every structure there was made of stones and rocks. There were also a large number of cracked boulders in

the desert. After tens of millions of years exposed to the wind and rain, the stones had lost their original color. They looked as though they were patched with dull-colored dust as if the warriors' blood had soaked the rocks during the battle in ancient times.

There was nothing else there, other than the many stones. Any skeletons left behind would have been turned to dust and drifted to every corner of the continent with the wind.

Shen Yanxiao moved with agility, and the Vermillion Bird hovered in the air. Ordinary people would find it difficult to walk on that land, but it had posed no difficulty to those two.

The Skeleton Flower was the size of one's palm, so it would be hard to spot.

The night was a perfect time for thieves to act. Although Shen Yanxiao could clearly see everything in the dark, she could not find the Skeleton Flower that quickly in such an environment.

She decided that the two of them should split up and search for the flower by themselves.

Shen Yanxiao had been worried about any potential danger that might have lurked in the Graveyard of the Sun. Fortunately, she had not detected any other soul there, dead or alive.

She was not surprised. The Graveyard of the Sun was a former ancient battleground, so the forces of the elements would have been powerful there as well. No ordinary folks would dare to linger there.

Initially, the Temple of the Sun was where most forces of light elements in the entire Brilliance Continent would gather. However, during the infamous ancient battle, the demons had brought dark elements to the continent with their blood and souls. The incompatible elements had terrible consequences on the continent. Finally, both elements had intertwined in the Graveyard of the Sun. The chaotic forces there could easily tear the body of an average man.

When Shen Yanxiao was there, she used her magical power and battle aura to build a protective shield around herself so that she could walk around the area as she usually would.

The Graveyard of the Sun was strangely quiet under the veil of the night. One could not even hear the wind. Shen Yanxiao could only hear the faint sound of her breathing; it was as if she was the only living soul there.

The Vermillion Bird had vanished into a pile of rocks. The little Phoenix chirped happily when it left with him.

The silence that surrounded her felt dreadful.

They were not far away from each other, but Shen Yanxiao could no longer see her companions. The haunting elements in the area had caused chaos in the land. One's vision and hearing would be significantly undermined there.

An ancient battleground was no place for fun. Otherwise, one would not regard it as a restricted area.

Shen Yanxiao decided to look for the Skeleton Flower as quickly as she could so that she could leave that disturbing place just as fast.

As she lifted and moved the huge boulders, Shen Yanxiao quickly browsed through every nook and cranny of the land that she passed.

“Xiu, can you feel the presence of the Skeleton Flower?” Shen Yanxiao asked.

“If it is close by, I will feel it.” Shen Yanxiao heard Xiu’s somewhat cold voice in her mind.

It was as tricky as to search for a needle in a haystack if one were to look for the Skeleton Flower with the naked eye. It would be a much easier mission if Xiu could detect the presence of the Skeleton Flower.

Chapter 489: Temple of the Sun (3)

Reassured by Xiu’s words, Shen Yanxiao decided not to drag her feet any longer. She drank a bottle of speed potion and dashed it. She wanted to cover as much ground as she could in the shortest time possible. They would accomplish the mission whenever Xiu found the Skeleton Flower.

The Graveyard of the Sun was spacious, so Shen Yanxiao had to run all night long. She had drunk a few bottles of speed potion and mental potion to support her speed.

Time passed by. However, Xiu did not detect any Skeleton Flower around them, which frustrated Shen Yanxiao. Dawn was about to break, but they had not found anything yet. Shen Yanxiao stopped for a short rest, and she sat on a boulder with her hand under her chin, deep in her thoughts.

Was she in the wrong place? Did she miss anything, or perhaps, she had misunderstood Du Lang’s message?

She had covered almost one-third of the Graveyard of the Sun, but she had found nothing. She had not heard back from the Vermilion Bird either.

She had the battle aura and magical power to protect her. However, due to the presence of different elements in such a chaotic place, she did not have enough strength to support the protective shield for long. She could already sense the protection had thinned. Once the shield was gone, the chaotic elements would tear her into dust in a second.

She no longer had ample time to continue her search. She would exhaust her battle aura and magical powers in an hour.

At that moment, Shen Yanxiao wished that she was a priest. A priest could create a more reliable light shield that would allow her to hang out there for ten days to half a month without any worry.

“Xiu, where do Skeleton Flowers usually grow?” Shen Yanxiao no longer wanted to search aimlessly, so she thought she could go through a process of elimination. Otherwise, an hour would not be enough to cover the rest of the area.

“There is nothing special about where the Skeleton Flower would grow. It can grow in any place where gods, demons, humans, elves, and dragons live. The only special requirement for this plant is the deadly aura. The Skeleton Flower does not require the sun nor the rain, just boundless of deadly aura, which is useful for accelerating its growth. The flower can grow wherever there are deaths.” Xiu told Shen Yanxiao the details that he remembered about the Skeleton Flower.

The Skeleton Flower got its name because they would blossom wherever one would find a pile of skeletons.

Death was their nutrient, and the blood and soul of the dead were their spring.

“Then, Du Lang must have obtained the right information. This was one of the most tragic battlegrounds during the war between the demons and gods. Countless beings from both forces died here. This is a great place to find some Skeleton Flowers.” Shen Yanxiao rubbed her chin. She was confident that Du Lang had been right about his theory.

“The place with the thickest deadly aura in a battlefield must have been where most of them died. The Skeleton Flower should be there!” It seemed as if Shen Yanxiao was inspired with a new idea. She squinted as she tried to picture the battle from tens of millions of years ago.

The army from the dragon race would have advanced into the Temple of the Sun. The God of the Sun must have guarded the temple at that time, and he must have led the humans in a fight against the demons. Blood and death had comprised an immortal battle hymn, and it echoed across the land of former glory.

“Where the God of the Sun perished...” Shen Yanxiao pursed her lips as a glint of hope flashed in her mind.

“Right! That must be it!”

Chapter 490: Temple of the Sun (4)

During the ancient war between the demons and the gods, the leaders of the god race suffered a crushing defeat. The climactic battle must have happened in the Temple of the Sun’s main hall, which was why the entire area had fallen into shambles.

The god race must have made the temple their last stronghold, and it represented a sign of victory for the demons.

The last battle must have happened there!

The gods were defeated in that last battle, and many gods and demons sacrificed their lives for that. Their bones and remains piled as high as mountains, and their blood had converged into streams...

Shen Yanxiao stood up and hopped onto the biggest boulder. She looked around to try and find the most possible location for the Temple of the Sun.

“The main hall of the Temple of the Sun is in the center of this area,” Xiu said as if he could tell what was in Shen Yanxiao’s mind.

“You know about this?” Shen Yanxiao hesitated for a second. Xiu’s words had come as a surprise.

However, Xiu offered no more reply.

She was about to run out of time, so Shen Yanxiao did not badger him with more questions. She followed his words and ran toward the heart of the Graveyard of the Sun.

When she reached there, she was so astonished that she was lost for words.

She saw a large opening that covered more than 1000 square meters in the center of the Graveyard of the Sun.

However, there was nothing there, not even a piece of rock, let alone the Skeleton Flower.

The bare land looked incompatible with that chaotic place.

“How can it be?” Shen Yanxiao never expected she would see that.

She had not expected the deserted land that was unveiled before her eyes.

She stepped to that empty land slowly and looked around in confusion.

“Xiu, are you sure that this is the place?”

“Yes.”

Shen Yanxiao was speechless. Did the demons flatten the temple in a fit of rage after they killed the God of the Sun?

That did not make any sense!

She had a clue in her grasp, but the trail had gone cold. Shen Yanxiao, who had just seen some glimmer of hope, was devastated.

She was depressed. The first ray of twilight cast onto the ground on the horizon to remove the night’s veil and bring light back to life.

Shen Yanxiao still stood in the center of the Graveyard of the Sun. She looked up to the morning sky as she stood in that strange land.

When the sunlight shone onto the ground and stroked over its dirt, a ray of golden light burst out from the edge of that empty land. It shone brightly as it formed a halo along the side of that land.

Shen Yanxiao was amazed by the show of light. Before she could react, several of the golden rays of light intertwined over the ground within the halo. In the blink of an eye, brilliant beams of light burst out from the empty land below her feet. Just like the scorching sun, its light would offend one’s eyes.

The dazzling light covered the entire land and then vanished just as suddenly.

One would be awe-struck if one were to see the image on the ground at that moment. The moment the light faded, golden lines had appeared on the ground. A huge magic array had formed on the empty land!

Then, that empty land reverted to its original state, and without a single soul on it.

The golden lines that stretched on the dirt eventually dimmed until it was back to its initial color.

At that very moment, the Vermillion, who was at the other end of the Graveyard of the Sun, was struck by a sudden sense of loss!

He turned around immediately but failed to see Shen Yanxiao. He flew up to the sky and looked down at the Temple of the Sun. Still, there was no sign of his master...

