

The Strongest

Chapter 121 - Invitation

When Shi Feng arrived at Jin Hai City's business district, he wandered about and discovered customers flooding the electronics department store. He noticed several youths rushing out of the department store after much difficulty, their hands holding a God's Domain virtual gaming helmet and their expressions filled with joy and excitement.

After leaving the apartment, Shi Feng immediately hitched a ride to the business district in the city's center.

"Hahaha, this is just wonderful! Fortunately, I came here as early as 7 o'clock in the morning to queue up. After three hours of waiting, I finally got my hands on it! From today onwards, I will be fighting for my future in God's Domain!" the lean youth wearing a blue T-shirt laughed loudly as he grasped the helmet.

"Do you need me to carry you guys? I have a friend who has been playing God's Domain since the game started. Right now, he is already a Level 4. As long as we have him to help us, we'll definitely level quickly. If we're lucky, we might even be able to have him carry us," another curly haired youth proudly proclaimed.

"Really? Then it's a promise! Our futures will be in your hands from now on. As for your lunches at the university, we'll pay them for you."

"Leave it to me! He and I are close brothers!"

When these youths heard there was an expert willing to give them pointers and carry them, they were all incredibly excited. They fantasized about their beautiful futures.

With the many global corporations fiercely investing in God's Domain, in addition to the many news reports about it, the common folk all discovered a new way to make money.

These large corporations would easily offer a gaming expert a high salary. So much so that, for some of the veteran and expert players, the annual salaries would reach as high as three million Credits. This was an unimaginable figure when considering the virtual reality games of the past. Previously, those with an annual salary in the millions just from gaming were godlike players standing at the apex. Now, however, even retired experts could receive an annual salary of three million Credits. Meanwhile, the current trending top-tier experts could receive an annual salary of up to eight million Credits.

According to Shi Feng's knowledge, the annual salary of the Guild Leader of Ouroboros did not even exceed six million Credits, while Gentle Snow's annual salary was only four million Credits. Of course, the Snow Goddess would not even pay heed to this small amount of money. She could easily obtain an income of several tens of millions just from advertisement. In addition to her family background, money was truly not a problem for her. Unlike Shi Feng, who played God's Domain to change his fate, fulfilling his wish that never was fulfilled, Gentle Snow's goal was purely the joy gained from stimulating adventures.

"Luckily, I'm not here to buy a gaming helmet," Shi Feng sent a glance to the sea of people at the department store, exclaiming. He then turned towards a mobile phone store near the electronics department store.

It was an inconvenience for him to continue using an old-modeled phone. Hence, Shi Feng was prepared to switch to a quantum watch instead. Not only did it support communication between multiple languages, but it also supported bank account binding, allowing Shi Feng to transfer Credits at any given time. This way, he would neither have to always go to the bank to retrieve money nor would he have to constantly carry around a stack of cash, causing a bulge in his pockets. He could avoid showing others a bulge on his lower body, preventing an awkward situation from occurring.

Immediately after Shi Feng walked into the quantum watch store, a beautiful saleswoman came up to greet him.

“How may I help you, Sir? Our store’s number one priority is quality. We have various models of mobile phones. I especially recommend the latest Quantum 3000. It has an independent binding, is water resistant, and is definitely safe. Not only can it carry out payment in real-time, but the Quantum 3000 also supports transactions from the virtual reality game, God’s Domain.”

“Alright, take me to see it then.”

“This way, please, Sir.”

Judging from Shi Feng’s tone, the beautiful saleswoman could discern that Shi Feng intended to buy a quantum watch. Immediately, she respectfully brought Shi Feng to the area dedicated to selling quantum watches. She then took out dozens of models. Not only were their designs beautiful, but they were also elegant-looking and convenient to use. They were all operated by a holographic screen, and even when carrying out vigorous activities, the clarity of the display and sound would not be affected in the slightest.

“Sir, as we are doing a promotion for God’s Domain, you only need to pay 29,999 Credits instead of the usual 30,000 Credits to take the Quantum 3000 home.”

Shi Feng could not help but sweat at the saleswoman’s promotion. Just how was this any different from 30,000 Credits? This price was practically unaffordable for the average university student if they did not possess a well-paying job, and even then, they would usually need to save up for half a year before being able to buy one. However, Shi Feng was indeed in need of the latest quantum watch. After all, it would be particularly convenient for him. Although running to the bank was good training for his body, it was, after all, a very troublesome task. It was especially true when he needed to make a transaction of millions of Credits. He would definitely look fishy if he carried around a large suitcase filled with money.

“Give me this blue one, then,” Shi Feng chose a good-looking model.

Under the beautiful saleswoman’s guidance, Shi Feng carried out the bindings for his identity, original phone number, bank account, and so on. Shi Feng then swiped using his new quantum watch, paying the bill for it. It was a very convenient item.

Now that he had obtained a quantum watch, Shi Feng went on to purchase 10 bottles of A-rank Nutrient Fluids and 50 bottles of B-rank Nutrient Fluids, spending a total of 150,000 Credits for them. Although it was a heartache to spend so much money, in consideration for the future of his body, Shi Feng still needed to carry out several in-depth strengthening training sessions. So, he needed to purchase this number of Nutrient Fluids at the very least.

Di... Di... Di...

His quantum watch rang and vibrated, notifying him that his class monitor, Zhao Ruoxi, was calling him.

Aside from notifying him about the class assembly last time, the class beauty, Zhao Ruoxi, had never once contacted him.

“Class monitor, is something the matter?” Shi Feng immediately asked.

“Fellow student Shi Feng, must I have a purpose to call you? Or are you trying to tell me that you hate receiving calls from me?” Zhao Ruoxi said in a slightly downcast tone.

“No, no. How could that be possible? I still haven’t thanked you for your help the last time!” hearing such a bitter tone from Zhao Ruoxi, Shi Feng hurriedly responded. In his heart, Zhao Ruoxi was a very good girl. Not only was she smart, kind, and beautiful, but she was also the only one who stood up to Ling Feilong, demanding justice for Shi Feng. Her actions gave Shi Feng a warm feeling.

“That’s better. At least you still have a conscience.” Zhao Ruoxi laughed, “The date of the Fellowship Party I mentioned to you the last time has been confirmed. It will be held next Friday. Every participant will be required to pay a fee of 5,000 Credits. I’ve already paid it for you, so don’t forget to show up.”

Finished speaking, Zhao Ruoxi immediately disconnected the call. As a result, Shi Feng was left dumbfounded for a long moment.

“Ruoxi, why did you notify Shi Feng? You’ve even paid the participation fee for him. He’s not anything good, to begin with, always keeping his thoughts and emotions to himself. He must have a hidden motive. There is a wide gap between both of your statuses, and to change his own fate, he will definitely use unscrupulous means to get close to you. You better not let him trick you,” Ling Feilong pretended to care about Zhao Ruoxi. However, inwardly, he was close to the point of going insane with anger. A poor bastard like Shi Feng actually received Zhao Ruoxi’s attention. She even footed the participation fee for him. Her actions revealed that she indeed possessed some interest towards him.

“Enough, Ling Feilong. Whoever I pay for is my own business. I don’t need you to butt in on it,” Zhao Ruoxi said in displeasure.

Ling Feilong was speechless. However, he did not dare to display his thoughts, hatred for Shi Feng permeating his heart. Originally, everything had been smooth sailing for him. Yet, Shi Feng’s sudden appearance caused everything to run amok.

Shi Feng, just you wait... If I can’t deal with you myself, then I’ll just tell Zhao Ruoxi’s uncle. We’ll see how he takes care of you... Ling Feilong inwardly sneered. With Shi Feng’s lowly status, Zhao Ruoxi’s uncle would definitely reject them being together. As long as he exerted a little effort, he could easily deal with a small fry like Shi Feng.

At 6 p.m., Shi Feng returned to his rented apartment. After spending the afternoon running around, Shi Feng finally found himself a good apartment in the city's center. The furnishing of the apartment was quite thorough. Moreover, the surrounding environment was very appealing. With the initial deposit paid, as long as he packed up his things, he could move into the apartment tomorrow.

After tidying himself up, Shi Feng drank a bottle of B-rank Nutrient Fluids. He then lay on the bed, donning his gaming helmet and resuming his conquest in God's Domain.

Chapter 122 - God's Domain Changes

The sky above Red Leaf Town glimmered brightly.

Players, one after another, appeared on the wide, spacious road, all of their faces filled with excitement. They all wished to dive into experiencing the new changes to God's Domain.

However, these players were all quickly disappointed.

Be it the System Interface or all of Red Leaf Town itself, there was not a hint of change felt. Everything was just the same as usual.

"What kind of bullshit is this? I've painstakingly waited for twelve hours, and this is what you give me?"

“Why isn’t the official website showing the changelog for the upgrade?”

Many veteran players started their discussions on the streets. There were also some players who paid no attention towards the upgrade, immediately heading out of Town to kill monsters and level up.

Aside from these veteran players, there were tons of newcomers in Red Leaf Town now. Most of these newcomers were curiously enjoying the novelty of God’s Domain.

“Looking for top-tier experts to carry me! I’ll pay 100 Credits for every level-up! If you are looking for a fool to scam, then don’t bother talking to me! I’m looking for serious inquiries only!” a new player shouted on the wide street.

Following, several more newcomers similarly shouted. However, though their offers were all lower than 100 Credits, they all acted like tycoons, standing proudly as they shouted out their offers.

At that moment, Shi Feng stepped out of the Hotel. He felt his spirit brimming with energy, one of the benefits of staying in a Hotel.

After the evolution of God’s Domain, the number of Hidden Attributes a player possessed had greatly increased. For example, Stamina, Concentration, and so on. However, one would only become aware of these changes after personally experiencing them. Players could no longer run tens of kilometers without tiring like before, nor would they be able to battle for as long as they wanted. Before, the only problem players faced was the tiring of the spirit. Now, however, everything was largely different. For players at Level 0, they would become dead-tired after only walking for two or three kilometers, not having even an ounce of fighting strength remaining. Similarly, continuously grinding monsters also became much more difficult. It was just like jogging. Players would consume a lot of stamina when battling monsters. Once a player’s stamina reduced to a certain threshold, their four limbs would turn feeble, while their spirits would grow exhausted.

Besides that, there were many more hidden changes that occurred after the evolution of God's Domain.

As the Main God System made God's Domain more realistic, simultaneously, players would find it even more difficult for them to level up.

"It should be time for me to go shopping."

In Shi Feng's previous life, after the upgrade of God's Domain, the prices of items soared sky-high, increasing by at least two or three folds. As a result, many players regretted not stockpiling a large number of resources after the evolution of God's Domain.

Meanwhile, the current situation was slightly different from before. The prices of items increased even more than last time.

Aside from the difficulty of leveling up increasing, the time just so happened to coincide with the influx of a lot of newcomers. As a result, the competition for items would become much fiercer, increasing the difficulty of obtaining resources by manyfold. Hence, the increase in prices for these items would be even more exaggerated than in Shi Feng's previous life. Now that God's Domain had recently evolved, before players discovered the new changes, Shi Feng could use this chance to purchase and stockpile all the important items. After the prices soared, he could then resell all of them.

If the major Guilds were to get ahold of this information right now, they would definitely soar to become the tyrants of their respective Towns. For Shi Feng, however, he could only make a quick buck.

When comparing an individual to a Guild, the resources obtainable by both were on totally different levels. There were plenty of players within a Guild, so they would be able to easily obtain a ton of rare resources within no time at all. Meanwhile, although Shi Feng knew how to obtain those resources, just how much of them could he obtain by himself? During the time he was procuring those resources, his level might be surpassed by other players. Hence, his only choice was to shop for the resources at the Auction House.

“This expert over here, please wait a moment. Are you interested in making some extra income?” a Level 0 Berserker walked up to Shi Feng, asking with a smile on his face.

Shi Feng was wearing a complete Silvermoon Set Equipment. His weapon was also a Secret-Silver Rank. Although newcomers did not possess Identification Skills[1] to discern Shi Feng’s level, Shi Feng’s dazzlingly high-quality equipment was clearly much better than the veteran players on the street. It was needless to say that Shi Feng was definitely an expert.

“Extra income?” Shi Feng turned around, discovering that it was a newcomer calling out to him. For convenience sake, some of the more wealthy players would normally hire experts to aid them in completing a Quest. In return, they would pay a considerable amount of Credits as remuneration. Regarding such extra incomes, Shi Feng was still somewhat interested. He continued, “Tell me about it, then.”

“It’s very simple; you just need to help me level up. I’m also not a miserly person, so I’m willing to pay 100 Credits per level. If you can help me catch up with the majority of the other players, I am even willing to pay you 1,000 Credits. What do you think?” the Berserker proudly stated.

Shi Feng’s brows wrinkled as he heard the man speaking, “Sorry, but I don’t have the time. You should look for someone else to help you.”

Shi Feng had too many things he had to do. Not only did he need to make sure his level didn’t fall behind, but he also needed to earn money and accumulate advantages for his future Guild. He needed to make preparations for the upcoming power struggle in White River City. Just from clearing out the items in the Auction House, he could earn several hundreds of thousands of Credits. So, why would he waste his time just for a measly 1,000 Credits? He hadn’t fallen to such a low standard as of yet.

Finished saying his piece, Shi Feng turned and walked away, heading towards the Bank to store his items.

“Hold on a moment...” the Berserker called out for a long time, but Shi Feng paid him no attention from beginning to end. Immediately, the Berserker said in a fit of rage, “Crap, what’s there to be so proud of? If you don’t want to do it, there will be many other experts who would be willing to carry me. You’ll regret it when that time comes!”

“Looking for an expert to power-level me! One hundred Credits per level! Don’t miss this good opportunity!” the Berserker started shouting once again.

However, even after shouting for a long time, not a single veteran player paid him any heed.

“Hahaha! This newcomer is just too hilarious! My stomach is hurting from laughing too much!” a Level 5 Ranger laughed as he passed.

“Don’t bother with him. There are bound to be fools amongst the newcomers. We don’t have any time to spare right now. We need to purchase some bread and potions quickly. Otherwise, we’re going to be scolded by our leader,” the Ranger’s pro companion[2] hurriedly said.

“I know. I know. I just think that person is a fool. Does he really think God’s Domain is just some small-time game? Does he think we can level up once every minute? Forget 100 Credits per level; even if it were 1,000 Credits per level, I still wouldn’t do it, not to mention a top-tier expert player. Without ten to twenty thousand Credits, there won’t even be a need for a discussion!” the Ranger sneered.

In the initial period of the game, everyone was rushing to level up. They were all afraid of being left behind by the majority of the players, losing their chance to shine. Hence, where would they find the time to help the newcomers? Not to mention 100 Credits, right now, the pro players at Level 5 could earn more than 1 Silver in a single day. When converted to Credits, that amount would be more than 100 Credits. If their luck was good and they managed to obtain a piece of Common Equipment, that

would be the equivalent of obtaining several hundreds of Credits. If it were an expert player, it was an entirely different story altogether. They certainly did not lack such a meager amount money.

When the newbie Berserker heard their conversation, he was greatly shocked by the Ranger's words. Moreover, he could tell that the Ranger was not fooling around. The Berserker was just a white-collar worker in a company. Previously, he was similarly willing to spend some money to seek the aid of others, letting others power-level him. At that time, his offer had been only 30 to 50 Credits, yet, even then, there were tons of players fighting over his offer. However, right now, his offer of 100 Credits did not receive even the slightest attention. It turned out that power-leveling even a single level required several thousand Credits. That was practically an entire month of his salary!

The Berserker's face immediately flushed bright red. He felt that he had just humiliated himself greatly. He had been shouting on the streets for so long, thinking highly of himself all this time. Even when he heard the gossiping of the passerby players, he only thought that they were astonished by his offer. However, in reality, it turned out that they were just scolding him as foolish. It was no wonder the previous expert had rejected his offer immediately after hearing the price.

Meanwhile, the other newcomers seeking the aid of an expert had similarly shut their mouths, one after another. Every one of them felt their cheeks burning up, shamefully walking away to search for Quests to level up.

In another location, Shi Feng was currently fervently buying items at the Auction House, accumulating a large amount of rare resources. When he had spent all of his money, only then did Shi Feng release a sigh of relief. He then placed the Glimmer Chestplate Forging Designs for auction, their base prices set at 2 Gold Coins each. He would not need to worry about them not selling.

"It should be about time to collect the Ice-Blue Devil Flame..." After Shi Feng finished busying himself, he switched back to his original appearance. He prepared himself to collect the Mysterious Flame ahead of schedule. Now that God's Domain had evolved ahead of schedule, the Mysterious Flame might similarly be obtained by other players ahead of schedule. To prevent the unexpected from happening, it was best for him to obtain it a little earlier. He would only be able to relax when the Ice-Blue Devil Flame was in his possession.

TL Notes:

[1]Identification Skills: Observation Skills will now be changed to Identification Skills.

[2] pro companion: the term 'pro' will be used to refer to occupational players from now on. However, do take note that 'pro' doesn't necessarily mean that they are on the level of 'experts.' I hope I'm not offending anybody with this, but 'experts' are like the globally renown singers that earn millions of dollars, while 'pros' are like full-time/part-time pub singers that earn thousands of dollars. Of course, 'pros' definitely possess the chances of becoming 'experts.'

Chapter 123 - Survival of the Fittest

Ice-Blue Devil Flame.

It was one of the handful of Tier 2 Mysterious Flames that could only be found in White River City. This flame held a fatal attraction towards Forgers. Moreover, the Hundred Ghost Forest that housed the Ice-Blue Devil Flame was only a short distance from Red Leaf Town. Hence, it would be a big waste if Shi Feng did not obtain it for himself.

Be it earning money or forging items, the Mysterious Flame would provide Shi Feng with a tremendous amount of aid.

Right now, Shi Feng was still several hundred Proficiency Points away from becoming an Intermediate Forging Apprentice. However, even if he became one, it would still be quite difficult for him to forge the Secret-Silver ranked Silver Dawn.

When forging Secret-Silver Equipment, an Intermediate Forging Apprentice only had a 2% chance of success, while a Basic Forging Apprentice had a pitiful 1%.

If Shi Feng included the 20% from the Book of Forging, 5% from Blacksteel's Insignia, and 5% from the Runic Hammer, he would, at best, have a 32% success rate after becoming an Intermediate Forging Apprentice. Furthermore, forging the Silver Dawn required three extremely rare materials, which dictated that Shi Feng would be unable to create many of them. If Shi Feng forged the Silver Dawn with such low success rates, he would absolutely take an irrecoverable loss. Although the loss of tens of Silver Coins with each failure was not a problem to Shi Feng, the materials required were simply too rare. They were not items Shi Feng could obtain simply by wishing. An extensive amount of time was needed to obtain all of them.

Moreover, the Abyssal Blade probably required ten Silver Dawns to level up.

Hence, the Ice-Blue Devil Flame was a must-have for Shi Feng.

The Tier 2 Ice-Blue Devil Flame would considerably increase the forging success rate, not to mention the various benefits it would bring Shi Feng in the future. Hence, this trip to the Hundred Ghost Forest was a must for Shi Feng.

Shi Feng departed Red Leaf Town, his destination: north.

Due to the matter regarding stamina, Shi Feng did not hurry too much. The quicker he ran, the quicker he would run out of stamina. Instead, if he maintained his running speed at a certain threshold, the rate his stamina replenished was equal to its consumption. However, this threshold differed for every player as it depended on the player's Attributes, making it extremely hard for players to obtain.

When Shi Feng passed by the Level 5 monster area, Gray Wolf Prairie...

In the midst of the grass that grew to the waist of an adult, players' corpses randomly lay about, scattered. From a glance, the majority of players who died were solo players, while a minority consisted of parties who party-wiped.

Going several hundred yards deeper into the prairie, the thick grass suddenly grew restless. At the sight, Shi Feng immediately unsheathed both of his weapons.

Soon after, two Level 5 players rushed out from the thicket, their appearances extremely unsightly. Bloodstains littered their clothing, and their weapons were no longer on their persons. When the two of them noticed Shi Feng, without hesitation, both of them immediately rushed toward him.

After the two players ran out of the grass, a group of Level 5 White-eyed Gray Wolves similarly came running, closely pursuing the two players. The White-eyed Gray Wolves howled as they chased their prey as if announcing the location of their quarry to others of their pack.

[White-eyed Gray Wolf] (Common Monster)

Level 5

HP 540/540

Shi Feng immediately understood the two players' intentions; they wanted to shift their calamity onto him.

"Brat, count yourself as unlucky for meeting us. Since you are going to die anyway, you might as well help us lure this wolf pack!" an Assassin looked towards Shi Feng, laughing grimly.

Saying so, the speed at which the two ran at Shi Feng increased somewhat slightly.

However, they greatly underestimated Shi Feng.

When the players were about to run past Shi Feng, Shi Feng's hands immediately latched onto the two's arms. With his superb Strength, he immediately tossed the players back to the pack of wolves that rushed ahead.

Before the players could even react, they landed in the middle of the wolf pack. Their bodies smashed onto a few of the White-eyed Gray Wolves as they landed, eliciting a few anguished wails from the wolves.

"You..." before the Assassin could even curse, the surrounding White-eyed Gray Wolves snapped at his neck and limbs. His flesh being torn apart, the Assassin's HP madly fell as he let out an agonizing wail.

The Ranger beside him was naturally not spared this fate, and very quickly, the wolf pack finished him off as well.

Shi Feng held not an ounce of pity towards them.

If the two of them had run in a different direction, they might have had the slight hope of surviving. However, instead of doing so, they made the worst possible decision of trying to drag Shi Feng into the mess. They had absolutely no idea that, when compared to the pack of wolves chasing them, Shi Feng was much more terrifying.

While the wolf pack was attacking the two players, Shi Feng took the chance to use Thundering Flash the instant the two players were about to die.

Like a fierce tiger released from its cage, the green colored arc of lightning loosed an earth-shaking howl as it pierced the bodies of the White-eyed Gray Wolves, causing a series of damages over -300 points. The White-eyed Gray Wolves died instantly, and only piles of burnt ash remained.

Although Shi Feng had killed over ten White-eyed Gray Wolves with a single attack, he was already Level 7. The total EXP of several hundred points was almost negligible to him now.

After collecting all the loot, Shi Feng took an Isolation Scroll out from his bag.

With the evolution of God's Domain, the monsters in the wild had similarly received a huge upgrade. Not only was their sensitivity greatly increased, but they also had a more flexible way of thinking, and their range of activity greatly widened. Their battle methods started varying, becoming more similar to real melee battle. Meanwhile, the biggest change the monsters underwent after the evolution of God's Domain was that these monsters would no longer shrink back, even against high-leveled players. Also, their range of vigilance would no longer reduce. Hence, players needed even more caution when dealing with monsters. Otherwise, they could easily lure a large group of monsters onto themselves.

On his way to this place, Shi Feng had met many players who died in such a way. For example, a party that had killed a few White-eyed Gray Wolves failed to leave the location quickly. As a result, the scent of blood spread to the surroundings and attracted more White-eyed Gray Wolves, wiping out the party.

After using the Isolation Scroll, Shi Feng quickly departed the Gray Wolf Prairie. He then passed through Kirk Grand Canyon, Cybus Lake, and many other high-level monster areas. After traveling for six hours, Shi Feng finally arrived at the Level 15 monster area, Hundred Ghost Forest.

The Hundred Ghost Forest was a cursed location. In this dark and withered forest, where sunlight never reached, only the Cursed Apparitions lingered. These apparitions had a 60% resistance against physical attacks and possessed 20% evasion. The monsters also had insanely high Attack Power, and to the current Shi Feng, they only needed to land two or three hits to kill him. However, these monsters only had 600 HP, and magical attack damage was increased by 100%. Hence, the Hundred Ghost Forest was a leveling heaven for mage classes.

Due to God's Domain evolving, these Cursed Apparitions had become much more sensitive to their surroundings. They were widely different from the other beast-type monsters. Instead of scent, these monsters could easily sniff out the aura of living beings within a hundred-yard radius, and even if one used Stealth, the Cursed Apparitions could still detect them.

However, Shi Feng had come prepared. He took out a bottle of Dispersing Potion, immediately emptying its contents. The potion concealed the aura of a living being for 10 minutes.

With the aid of the Dispersing Potion, Shi Feng only needed to be slightly careful to avoid the detection of the Cursed Apparitions.

According to Shi Feng's knowledge, the location of the Ice-Blue Devil Flame was at the center of the Hundred Ghost Forest, at the fountain located at the central of Hundred Ghost Town. To obtain this Ice-Blue Devil Flame, the Guild, Glorious Light, had gone through a painstaking amount of trouble. Only after sending thousands of their members and having hundreds of them die, did they manage to clean out all the monsters found in Hundred Ghost City, obtaining the Ice-Blue Devil Flame.

Naturally, Shi Feng knew he did not possess the ability to clear out all the monsters in Hundred Ghost Town. However, he had other methods of securing the Mysterious Flame. Only, they were all filled with extreme danger.

After arriving at the Hundred Ghost Town, with much difficulty, Shi Feng halted his steps, observing the Town. When a cooling breeze blew over Shi Feng from the withered forest, he suddenly felt an indescribable chill.

Killing intent!

If Shi Feng did not have the experience of many years of blood-soaked combat, earning himself a natural instinct to detect danger, he would have been completely ignorant towards this faintly discernible killing intent. As this was not his first time feeling such a chillingly cold killing intent, Shi Feng immediately unsheathed both his swords.

At that very instant, a black figure appeared behind Shi Feng. Following which, a silver glow stabbed directly towards Shi Feng's neck and another towards his lower back. Like a poisonous snake, the two attacks were both swift and fatal.

From these two actions alone, Shi Feng knew his attacker was a top-tier expert immediately.

Although Shi Feng was slightly on guard, the speed of the attacks was just too swift for him to dodge.

Chapter 124 - Absolute Heaven

Just as Shi Feng was about to take damage...

Shi Feng abruptly activated Defensive Blade, successfully blocking the ambush. If an Assassin's ambush struck a player, they would enter a Fainted state for three seconds. These three short seconds were enough for an expert Assassin to obliterate half a MT's HP. Moreover, Assassins did not possess only a single skill that could place their target in a Fainted state. As long as an Assassin placed a player in the Fainted state, they would remaining in that state until their death.

"Scram!"

Shi Feng roared. He struck out with his sword as he withdrew his body, his sword capable of annihilating an army of thousands.

As the Abyssal Blade hurtled towards its target, it carried along sounds of explosions.

"Interesting."

The black figure reacted quickly, doing a swallow's turnover[1]. As the Abyssal Blade scraped past his body, like a whip, the black figure brandished both his weapons once more, one of his daggers slicing into Shi Feng's side. Throughout the entire process, the black figure's actions were as smooth and natural as flowing water.

"You're courting death!"

However, Shi Feng paid no attention to the dagger sailing towards him, the Crimson Blade already in motion. The Crimson Blade transformed into four sword images, all aimed for the black figure's vital points. Shi Feng was utterly confident in his own Attack Power.

The black figure was suddenly shocked. He did not think Shi Feng would be so decisive, giving up his defense and instead, aiming for mutual destruction. In a hurried motion, the black figure used his other dagger to block Shi Feng's attacks.

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

Sparks flew in mid-air.

Shi Feng's immense strength knocked the black figure back by two yards; he only managed to stabilise his body after retreating three consecutive steps. The black figure gazed at Shi Feng in shock.

"Indeed, you do not disappoint me," the black figure let out a muffled sneer.

The black figure did not understand how Shi Feng possessed such impressive strength. Shi Feng also perceived him right before his ambush, taking preventive measures against it immediately. Furthermore, the instant before Shi Feng was attacked, he unhesitatingly choose to attack in turn, giving the black figure no choice but to attack. This was the first time he had failed an ambush in a virtual reality game.

At this moment, Shi Feng was similarly in great shock. This black figure was practically a killer amongst killers. His movements were both soundless and lethal. His assassination techniques also seemed extremely well-practised. Furthermore, his attack speed was insanely quick. The black figure was even able to tail Shi Feng without discovery. If he had not revealed his killing intent the instant before he attacked, Shi Feng might truly have been his prey.

The black figure wore a black hooded-cape, which completely concealed his facial features. Moreover, the hooded-cape he used was very special. It was capable of rendering Identification Skills useless, and as a result, even his name was obscured.

Shi Feng then turned to read at the System Notification.

System: Red Player Absolute Heaven has initiated an attack against you.

Although the cape managed to trick Identification Skills, hiding the black figure's Red Name, it could not fool the System.

Shi Feng had never heard the name "Absolute Heaven." However, judging from his skills, Absolute Heaven was definitely not some nameless figure.

"The failure this time is due to my inept preparation. The next time I come, I'll definitely take your life," Absolute Heaven said as he turned around to retreat.

"You think you can escape?!" Shi Feng used Wind Blade, the Abyssal Blade thrusting towards Absolute Heaven.

As long as an Assassin was revealed, their battle prowess reduced by half. Since Absolute Heaven wanted to kill him, Shi Feng would not let him off, naturally. He needed to kill this Assassin before anything else. He did not wish to have someone constantly following him, aiming for his life.

The Abyssal Blade moved along the wind, instantly arriving and slicing towards Absolute Heaven's back.

As if he had long since been prepared, Absolute Heaven twisted his body, lifting his silvery-white dagger. Using only a small amount of strength, Absolute Heaven managed to block Shi Feng's sword. Simultaneously, his other silver-colored dagger stabbed towards Shi Feng's abdomen.

Kidney Strike!

From the series of attacks from before, Absolute Heaven had accumulated sufficient Energy to force Shi Feng into a Fainted state for 4 seconds.

Shi Feng did not think that Absolute Heaven would return with a counterattack. He immediately did a side-flip, avoiding the Kidney Strike. However, Absolute Heaven's second dagger closely followed, the dagger aiming for Shi Feng's backside.

Backstab!

Shi Feng immediately leaped into the air, avoiding the Backstab. Then, as Shi Feng descended, he abruptly brandished the Abyssal Blade. Thunder and fire coalesced around the Abyssal Blade, and like a thunder dragon roaring, the weapon struck down towards the ground.

Thunder Flame Explosion!

Absolute Heaven instantly noticed the ferocity of Shi Feng's attack. He lifted both his daggers in front of him, using Block to defend against this violent strike.

However, how could Shi Feng's super strength be so easy to defend against? At the moment of contact, Absolute Heaven was immediately forced to kneel. Both his legs sank into the ground, while his body nearly crumbled from the pressure.

The successful block of the Thunder Flame Explosion shocked Shi Feng. However, he reacted by swinging the Abyssal Blade, casting Abyssal Bind on Absolute Heaven. Immediately, nine chains bound Absolute Heaven, preventing him from moving a muscle. Shi Feng then followed up with an attack with both of his swords, his full strength placed behind the strikes.

Ten sword images flew towards Absolute Heaven, the target unable to dodge or avoid any of the images.

"Let's meet again next time," Absolute Heaven laughed. He discovered that Shi Feng had a plethora of attack patterns, allowing him to send out attacks in unbroken succession. Absolute Heaven's body then started dissipating, the nine chains that bound him falling to the ground.

Similarly, the ten sword images managed to pierce only air.

This was an advanced skill of Assassins, Vanish. Not only would it forcefully place the user in an Invisible state, but it would also allow the user to enter an Invulnerable state for 1 second.

"Don't even think of getting away!" Shi Feng was not willing to let Absolute Heaven go. Looking at the impressions in the grass left by Absolute Heaven's feet, Shi Feng used Thundering Flash.

Three electric arcs shot out. Absolute Heaven activated Wind Steps, entering an Invulnerable state once more for 1 second and successfully fending off the attacks of Thundering Flash. He then ran speedily away.

Similarly, Shi Feng activated Windwalk to chase after him.

However, shortly after Shi Feng began pursuit of Absolute Heaven, he noticed Absolute Heaven taking out a handful of white powder. Shi Feng immediately turned his head, shutting his eyes tightly.

The moment Absolute Heaven scattered the white powder, he released a blinding white light.

Flash Powder, it was an item that temporarily blinded monsters and players below Level 20 for 4 seconds. It was an extremely rare tool, and it was only sold in the Magic Shop located in the Slums of Red Leaf Town. Moreover, each player could only purchase ten bags of it per day.

After the momentarily blinding light subsided, Shi Feng opened his eyes, searching for Absolute Heaven. However, he discovered that Absolute Heaven had long since escaped, his figure no longer in sight.

After searching for a long time, Shi Feng was unable to discover his tracks. Without any better options, Shi Feng could only choose to give up.

“Just where is this Absolute Heaven from?” Shi Feng’s heart filled with questions. Not only did this Assassin possess excellent techniques, but he also had a large number of Skills. Moreover, Absolute Heaven was equipped with a complete Level 5 Bronze Set Equipment, and both his daggers were Secret-Silver Ranked. His origin was definitely not ordinary.

Shi Feng had only been to Blackwing City recently. Even if he had provoked the Bloodthirsty War God Guild, those people did not know of his true identity. If Shi Feng were to think of who else he may have provoked, then they’d be Flaming Tiger from Shadow and Ironsword Lion from Martial Union.

Shi Feng was extremely familiar with the internal members of Shadow, and he knew Flaming Tiger was not capable of finding such an unknown expert. The only possibility remaining was Ironsword Lion. Shi Feng had previously killed Ironsword Lion. Based on Ironsword Lion's personality, he would definitely not let this matter rest.

There was over an 80% possibility that Ironsword Lion had hired this hidden expert.

Shi Feng could not help but admit that this situation was a headache. With his current strength, he was unafraid of Ironsword Lion coming at him straight on. However, an Assassin[h] constantly following him, especially an expert Assassin like Absolute Heaven, was truly a bother. If Absolute Heaven appeared and attacked him while he fought a monster or during a crucial moment, there was a 90% possibility for him to actually die.

It looks like I can only use another appearance in the future. For now, Shi Feng's only option was to alter his appearance. This way, even if that Assassin called Absolute Heaven was powerful, he would absolutely be unable to find him. If Absolute Heaven couldn't find him, he couldn't harass him.

However, Shi Feng could not alter his appearance right now. He needed to find a place with nobody present before doing so.

Shi Feng worried that this person named Absolute Heaven hadn't left the vicinity yet, and instead, was still tailing him. Thinking so, Shi Feng immediately activated the Ring of Nothingness, his body vanishing in thin air. First, he needed to look for a place without other players before changing his appearance. Then, he would continue searching for the Ice-Blue Devil Flame.

Some time after Shi Feng vanished, a figure revealed itself from behind one of the large withered trees. Indeed, this figure was Absolute Heaven.

“Crap, is he an Assassin or a Swordsman?” Absolute Heaven could not help but curse. He was normally not one to easily give up. Previously, he constantly said that he was leaving all in order to misled Shi Feng, looking for a good chance to ambush his target once more. He did not think Shi Feng possessed such a move, instantly disappearing. Just how was he supposed to look for the chance to ambush Shi Feng now?

TL Notes:

[1]Swallow’s turnover(燕子翻身): it’s some sort of barrel-roll, where one jumps, shifts their body to be parallel to the ground, then spins/rolls to avoid an attack

Chapter 125 - Hundred Ghost Town

Cold winds blew within the Hundred Ghost Forest. It was a place daylight never reached.

On an abandoned little farm, Shi Feng, with his newly-disguised appearance, was currently standing within a wooden building, searching for something.

“I’ve finally found it! Looks like the information wasn’t wrong.” After turning the place upside-down, Shi Feng obtained a bronze key from a wooden bucket.

[Secret Door Key]

Able to open the steel gate to the secret passageway of the Hundred Ghost Town.

Now that an Assassin crouched in a corner, waiting for him, Shi Feng worried that a problem would crop up at a crucial moment. Hence, he gave up the notion of entering the Hundred Ghost Town through the front door. With this key, he could use the secret passage to enter the Hundred Ghost Town. Only, the process of doing so was filled with many complications.

Legends had it, the entire Hundred Ghost Forest was once cursed by an extremely powerful Dark Curseman, turning all the living inhabitants into ghosts. Trapped in an existence of endless torment, these ghosts harbored an intense hatred of the living. As long as a living person approached the Hundred Ghost Town, the countless evil ghosts would ambush and devour them.

Meanwhile, the secret passage would lead Shi Feng directly to the central region of the Hundred Ghost Town. Although Absolute Heaven was very powerful, he could not enter the Hundred Ghost Town. What's more, Shi Feng had altered his disguise again. Even if they met, Absolute Heaven wouldn't recognize him.

Shi Feng found a cellar a short distance from the farm.

This cellar was the entrance to the secret passage that led to the Hundred Ghost Town, while the owner of the farm was this secret passage's gatekeeper.

The cellar was very dark, and Shi Feng could not make out a single thing within. His only option was to take out a Magic Lamp to shine the way. He followed along the cellar's passage, advancing forward until he finally reached the large steel gates that led to the secret passage. At this moment, however, the steel gates were tightly sealed.

If Shi Feng's Strength were over 100 points, even if he did not possess a key, he would be able to force open these steel gates with his arms alone. However, he was still very far from possessing 100 points in Strength, so he could only obediently use the key to open the gates.

“En.” After only taking a few steps into the secret passageway, Shi Feng discovered that his surroundings were littered with pearly white bones, while the walls on both sides were filled with the scars of battle.

Such a sight gave Shi Feng a very bad premonition.

The curse on the Hundred Ghost Forest turned the living into ghosts. That meant that all the inhabitants of this place were ghosts. This pile of skeletons...

“Aooo!”

At this moment, a large group of pitch-black Evil Spirits came rushing out from the depths of the secret passage, roaring. Their scarlet eyes firmly locked onto Shi Feng as they bared their fangs and brandished their, speeding towards him.

[Cursed Evil Spirit] (Common Monster)

Level 15

HP 700/700

Cursed Evil Spirits, when compared to Cursed Apparitions, were much more ferocious. They were unlike the Cursed Apparitions who were sluggish in their motions, depending solely on their instincts to move.

Cursed Evil Spirits possessed a set intelligence and were extremely lively. They also possessed an instinctive madness and sensitivity to flesh and blood.

The Cursed Evil Spirits were all Level 15. Meanwhile, Shi Feng was only Level 7. With a level suppression of eight levels, in addition to the 60% resistance and 20% evasion of physical attacks, Shi Feng would not be able to deal with even one of these monsters, not to mention a group of over thirty.

These Cursed Evil Spirits could even wipe out a Level 15 party with relative ease.

Watching these Cursed Evil Spirits rush at him...

Shi Feng took out a Frost Grenade from his bag, throwing it at them.

The Frost Grenade instantly discharged in the midst of the group of Cursed Evil Spirits. In the blink of an eye, the Cursed Evil Spirits within a 10-yard radius were frozen. They also received -400 frost damage from the explosion.

As expected, the 100% increase to magical damage was these ghosts' Achilles heel.

The reason Shi Feng choose to hurry to Hundred Ghost Forest was the Frost Grenades he had managed to buy during his trip to Blackwing City.

The Basic Frost Grenades were sufficient to deal with the ghosts in Hundred Ghost Town. After all, 200 damage was no small amount. In addition, the Frost Grenades would have a 100% damage increase when used on the ghosts here, becoming even more remarkable.

As expected, the Frost Grenades were very effective against these ghost-type monsters. Moreover, they had a throwing range of 30 yards and a Cooldown of 1 second. However, it was half as effective when used against players.

Previously, Shi Feng was worried that the number of Frost Grenades he brought to Hundred Ghost Town was not enough. Hence, he did not use any of them against Absolute Heaven. Moreover, the Frost Grenades might not be able to surely kill off Absolute Heaven, and even if they did manage to kill Absolute Heaven, Shi Feng would reveal one of his trump cards. If others caught wind of this information and started making preparations against the Frost Grenades, it would truly be an unworthwhile trade.

If he revealed this card, he needed to reap the most benefit out of it. Using the Frost Grenades to get rid of a single Absolute Heaven was just not worth it. At the very least, he should use them to give Martial Union a ruthless blow.

Right! How could I forget that the ghosts are darkness-type monsters? The Demon Hunter title should have quite some use. Shi Feng suddenly recalled his own Demon Hunter title, swapping out his current title.

Immediately, the Attributes of the Cursed Evil Spirits reduced by 10%, while the damage they received increased by 10%.

Shi Feng then threw another Frost Grenade, the bomb exploding with a loud bang in the midst of the group of Evil Spirits. A patch of damages of -440 points appeared above the group of monsters. Instantly, he annihilated the thirty plus Cursed Evil Spirits.

System: Level 15 Cursed Evil Spirit killed. Level difference of 8. EXP obtained increased by 800%.
Obtained 4,800 EXP.

System: Level 15 Cursed Evil Spirit killed. Level difference of 8. EXP obtained increased by 800%.
Obtained 4,800 EXP.

System: Level 15 Cursed Evil Spirit killed. Level difference of 8. EXP obtained increased by 800%.
Obtained 4,800 EXP.

.....

A series of more than thirty notifications appeared in Shi Feng's view. Although ghost-type monsters gave the least amount of EXP, the rewarded EXP for killing monsters of a higher level was still extremely high. Even if Shi Feng was Level 7 now, his experience bar still increased by a sizeable chunk. He reached 23% of Level 7, his leveling speed even faster than a rocket.

After these Evil Spirits died, they dropped quite a lot of Copper Coins and Tiny Spirit Essences. Ten Tiny Spirit Essences could be used to form a Spirit Essence, one of the needed materials to forge magical attachments. Hence, Spirit Essences were also worth quite a lot of money.

After collecting the drops, Shi Feng discovered that the Evil Spirits had actually given him over 1 Silver Coin. There were also over a dozen Tiny Spirit Essences that dropped. When formed into a Spirit Essence, it was worth 1 Silver Coin. This was definitely a good place to earn money.

Although there was still the loss of two Frost Grenades, costing a total of 3 Silver Coins, if Shi Feng could lure more than fifty monsters each time, he would barely make a small profit.

"Hopefully there will be more Evil Spirits in this place," Shi Feng said with expectation, his hand holding another Frost Grenade.

Half an hour later...

Shi Feng finally arrived at the secret passage's exit.

The secret passage was very long, and on his way here, he met with the ambushes of another five groups of Evil Spirits. However, the Frost Grenades dealt with them all. The number of Evil Spirits in each ambush only counted slightly over twenty, causing Shi Feng a loss.

In return, however, Shi Feng's experience quickly rose. He would level up if he just killed a few more groups of Evil Spirits. It was truly an invigorating experience.

The gate that opened to the Hundred Ghost Town was widely agape. Before Shi Feng exited the secret passage, he could already hear the countless roars and wails outside.

Above the secret passage was the Hotel of Hundred Ghost Town, and one could just imagine that the number of ghosts there was definitely not few. However, in such a cramped space, it would not be a good idea for Shi Feng to use the Frost Grenades.

Having no better choice, Shi Feng activated the Ring of Nothingness.

The state of nothingness was different from Stealth. Shi Feng entered another space entirely, and even the ghosts could not discover Shi Feng.

Shi Feng could stay in the state of nothingness for a short time. Hence, he ran with wild abandon as he quickly departed the Hotel, dashing towards one of the private houses. Seeing the duration of the state of nothingness about to end... If Shi Feng were to take a stroll on the streets of Hundred Ghost Town, filled with ghosts, he would truly be seeking death. As for the Frost Grenades, they had a 1 second Cooldown, and they could encompass every location.

3 seconds...

2 seconds...

1 second...

With only 10 yards remaining before Shi Feng reached the private house, the state of nothingness ended; his body, revealed.

Suddenly, the heads of the countless ghosts on the streets all turned towards Shi Feng, revealing sinister expressions.

Amongst these ghosts, there was no lack the Elite-ranked monster, Ferocious Evil Spirit, and they all rushed towards Shi Feng.

Chapter 126 - Left in the Dust

Watching the ghosts rushing forth from all around...

Shi Feng immediately activated Windwalk, his speed increasing by a huge leap as he dashed towards the dilapidated house.

“Aooo!”

The Level 15 Elite-ranked Ferocious Evil Spirits let out an ear-piercing screech. Immediately, more Cursed Evil Spirits dashed over, crowding the private house. Under the command of the Ferocious Evil Spirits, they all stormed into the house in a well-organized manner.

The private house was not large, and the place was a mess, with dust covering every surface. Meanwhile, the main door of the house could, at most, fit only two people at a time.

The moment the Cursed Evil Spirits squeezed through the main door...

A small-sized Basic Frost Grenade exploded in the threshold. Cold air overflowed from the entrance, and everything within a 10-yard radius froze solid. Instantly, the fifty plus Cursed Evil Spirits in front of the private house froze as well, and a damage of -440 points appearing above each of their heads. Their remaining HPs dropped under half. With the Cursed Evil Spirits at the entrance rooted in place, the others who, unaffected, were unable to rush into the house to devour Shi Feng.

The Frost Grenade could hold the Evil Spirits for 5 seconds. Shi Feng took this chance to use Thundering Flash; three arcs of lightning immediately pierced towards the main entrance. However, due to the gap between levels being too wide, the total damage the skill caused to each Cursed Evil Spirit did not even exceed -100 points.

System: Proficiency of Thundering Flash raised by 3 points.

However, because of the high level of these Cursed Evil Spirits, whenever Shi Feng used a skill to attack them, his skill proficiency greatly increased. Each usage would raise the skill proficiency by 3 points.

As it so happened, Shi Feng could use these Cursed Evil Spirits to train his skill proficiency while waiting for the Cooldown of the Frost Grenades to end.

Earth Splitter!

Thunder Flame Explosion!

AOE skills landed on the Cursed Evil Spirits, one after another. Although the damage was extremely low, the skill proficiency greatly increased.

After using the three skills, Shi Feng threw another Frost Grenade. Instantly, the fifty plus Cursed Evil Spirits died, transforming into a large sum of EXP for Shi Feng and dropping plenty of Copper Coins and Tiny Spirit Essences.

With the first wave of Cursed Evil Spirits dead, the ones behind rushed forward once more.

Shi Feng waited until they started squeezing through the main entrance before throwing a Frost Grenade. Once again, the Cursed Evil Spirits halted. Shi Feng then used the skills that had their Cooldown completed before using another Frost Grenade to finish off these Cursed Evil Spirits.

Countless Cursed Evil Spirits swarmed the Hundred Ghost Town. There were also the Ferocious Evil Spirits continuously screeching and luring the other Cursed Evil Spirits over. By this time, Cursed Evil Spirits and Ferocious Evil Spirits overflowed the private house's yard.

If there were not a team of several hundred players here, it was practically a pipe-dream to clear all these monsters. However, Shi Feng only camped inside the private house, using the Frost Grenades to clean away these monsters slowly. Although his efficiency was a lot slower when compared to a team with hundreds of players, his method was extremely safe. He could also grind for skill proficiency, killing two birds with one stone.

With the deaths of batch after batch of Cursed Evil Spirits, Shi Feng's experience and skill proficiency rose without stop.

Before five minutes had even passed, Shi Feng had already risen to Level 8.

Although he had killed an insane number of Cursed Evil Spirits, towards the Hundred Ghost Town, such a number was only a drop in the bucket.

After reaching Level 8, the EXP he obtained from killing the Cursed Evil Spirits was reduced by a large chunk. However, the death of each Cursed Evil Spirit still yielded Shi Feng with 4,200 EXP, and his leveling speed was still rising quicker than a rocket. With every wave of monsters killed, his experience bar filled by a large chunk. If others were to see this, their eyes would most likely pop out of their sockets.

They could only raise their experience bars by a small chunk after striving for one or two hours. Yet, Shi Feng's experience bar expanded by a large portion with each passing moment.

With the slow decrease of Shi Feng's remaining Frost Grenades, the number of Cursed Evil Spirits also continuously fell. This situation greatly enraged the Ferocious Evil Spirits, and they worked even harder at summoning their allies.

Twenty minutes later, a golden flash surrounded Shi Feng's body. He leveled up once more, reaching Level 9. Meanwhile, Thunder Flame Explosion had risen to Level 2, and Earth Splitter to Level 3.

If including the skill level bonus from the Abyssal Blade, Thunder Flame Explosion would be Level 4, while Earth Splitter would be Level 5.

[Thunder Flame Explosion] (Action-type)

Level 4

Requires: Melee Weapon

Causes 300 base damage and additional flame and thunder damage to enemies within a 5-yard radius. Enemies struck will be placed in a Fainted state for 4.5 seconds.

Cooldown: 36 seconds

[Earth Splitter]

Level 5

Requires: Sword

Causes 190 base damage and based on the period of charging power between 0.2 seconds to 3 seconds, a maximum of 360% weapon damage. Attack range of 10 yards.

Cooldown: 40 seconds

The Cooldown of both of these skills greatly reduced, while their power increased. If both skills were used, Common Monsters of the same level would die without question.

However, the most frightening part was still the fact that Shi Feng had risen to Level 9. Even in all of White River City, no one could find another Level 9 player. If there were a ranking for levels, Shi Feng would unquestionably be placed at the number one spot, while the player in second place was still a great distance from Level 8. It could be said that Shi Feng had left others in his dust, and even if the others tried, they could not catch up.

After reaching Level 9, Shi Feng placed all of his Attribute Points into Agility. With this, Shi Feng's Agility finally reached 75 points, satisfying the condition for equipping the Dark Pursuer's Cape.

After equipping the Dark Pursuer's Cape, Shi Feng's Attributes greatly increased once more, his Agility immediately rising to 80 points. As long as it reached 100 points, he could unlock Agility's Special Hidden Skill, greatly increasing his battle prowess.

Besides that, Shi Feng's HP had also increased to 1,200 points, his Movement Speed to 24 points, and his Attack Speed to 30 points, allowing him to learn the skill, Silent Steps. The next time he met Absolute Heaven, he would not allow him to escape so easily.

Now that Shi Feng was Level 9, the level suppression from the Cursed Evil Spirits was no longer as significant as before. Furthermore, Thundering Flash, Earth Splitter, and Thunder Flame Explosion had all leveled up as well, notably increasing their might.

Right now, Shi Feng only needed to combine one Frost Grenade and his three skills to end the Cursed Evil Spirits, saving him a lot of Frost Grenades.

After which, Shi Feng continued massacring the Cursed Evil Spirits for over a dozen minutes, his experience bar rising to 36% of Level 9. As long as he continued grinding like this for an hour, he could definitely reach Level 10. Unfortunately, Shi Feng had cleared out all the Cursed Evil Spirits that once filled the streets. Finally, those Ferocious Evil Spirits were no longer able to remain idle. They released angry roars, intending to rip Shi Feng to shreds with their own bare hands.

The scene frightened the other Cursed Evil Spirits. They hurriedly parted to give way to the Ferocious Evil Spirits.

Suddenly, over a dozen incomparably sinister-looking beings stormed the private house, every one of the Ferocious Evil Spirits intending to rend Shi Feng into tens of thousands of pieces.

[Ferocious Evil Spirit] (Elite Rank)

Level 15

HP 5,000/5,000

Compared to the Cursed Evil Spirits, not only did the Ferocious Evil Spirits have larger bodies, but their Attack Power and Movement Speed also greatly surpassed the former. They had many powerful melee skills, in addition to their 5,000 HP, 70% resistance, and 30% evasion to physical attacks. They were capable of easily decimating any melee class of the same levels. Moreover, the damage of magical attacks used on these monsters only increased by 50%, while magical damage of the same attribute would reduce by 50%. As a result, even mage classes were helpless against them.

However, those were still not the most frightening aspects of these monsters.

After God's Domain underwent its first evolution, Common Monsters above Level 10 all possessed a certain amount of wisdom. Meanwhile, these Level 15 Elites possessed even greater wisdom, increasing their battle prowess by manyfolds.

In Shi Feng's previous life, these Ferocious Evil Spirits slaughtered many players from Glorious Light. To kill these Ferocious Evil Spirits, Glorious Light had paid with the lives of hundreds of players.

"Finally here, eh?"

Despite watching the Ferocious Evil Spirits rushing at him, Shi Feng remained extremely calm.

In actuality, there was one thing that Shi Feng had always wanted to know. In God's Domain, if these monsters with high intelligence were met with players that greatly surpassed them, just what sort of reaction would occur?

Chapter 127 - Ghost Rider

Just as the Ferocious Evil Spirits were about to rush into the house...

Shi Feng took out an Intermediate Frost Grenade from his bag, throwing it.

The Ferocious Evil Spirits already had a rough understanding of the Frost Grenade's formidable power, and they showed extreme disdain towards it. Without even attempting to dodge the Frost Grenade, their pitch-black claws abruptly extended forward, slashing towards Shi Feng's heart.

However, after the Frost Grenade discharged, the cold air that expanded was several times colder than before. At this moment, the Ferocious Evil Spirits immediately realized something was wrong; the sinister expression on their faces revealed a hint of fear. In the blink of an eye, cold air invaded the forms of all the Ferocious Evil Spirits, transforming them into ice sculptures.

The Intermediate Frost Grenade was the trump card that Shi Feng had prepared. Each one was worth 10 Silver Coins, which was nearly several days' of a pro player's earnings. The Intermediate Frost Grenade also caused -1,320 damage to each of the Ferocious Evil Spirits. With Shi Feng's Demon Hunter title equipped, the Ferocious Evil Spirits only had a maximum of 4,500 HP each, and this attack instantly destroyed a third of their HP.

Due to using the Intermediate Frost Grenades for the first time, it achieved the maximum effect. When used the next time, these Ferocious Evil Spirits would possess ice resistance, greatly reducing the potential damage of the Intermediate Frost Grenades.

"Die!"

Shi Feng unsheathed his swords, his feet moving to an appropriate position before using Thundering Flash. Three green, electric arcs encompassed the Ferocious Evil Spirits.

Thundering Flash belonged to the lightning-type magic damage; hence, its damage increased by 50% when used on the Ferocious Evil Spirits.

Moreover, Shi Feng had already reached Level 9, while the Abyssal Blade could ignore a monster's level by 5 Levels. In actuality, the Ferocious Evil Spirits were only considered one level higher than Shi Feng, and the level suppression on Shi Feng was almost non-existent.

The Level 5 Thundering Flash dealt damages of -176, -230, and -297 to these frozen monsters. The skill also placed an additional amplification effect on the monsters, increasing the damage they received by 30% over the next 20 seconds.

With the Ferocious Evil Spirits unable to move for a full 5 seconds, Shi Feng was able to launch attacks at them freely.

Chop!

Double Chop!

Earth Splitter!

Physical-type damage was no different than a scratch to these Ferocious Evil Spirits, and even a fully-charged Earth Splitter caused no more than 100 damage.

As the seconds ticked by, the ice covering the bodies of the Ferocious Evil Spirits started showing signs of cracking. It would only be a moment before they struggled free of their imprisonment.

Shi Feng leaped lightly, the Abyssal Blade raised high as it condensed the power of thunder and flame around it. When Shi Feng landed in the midst of the group of Ferocious Evil Spirits, an abrupt explosion occurred. Thunder and flame instantly swallowed the surroundings, enveloping the Ferocious Evil Spirits and causing damages of over -500 points. In just a moment, the Ferocious Evil Spirits all lost two-fifths of their HP, and he forced them all into a Fainted state.

Due to these monsters being high-levelled Elites, the Fainted state was less effective on them, lasting, at most, 3 seconds.

Meanwhile, after Shi Feng's Attributes had greatly increased explosively, he created twelve sword images. Like a fierce gale, Shi Feng swept through the Ferocious Evil Spirits. Multiple damages of roughly -30 points appeared above the Ferocious Evil Spirits' heads, with the occasional -60 points or so damage. Immediately, the Ferocious Evil Spirits' HP reduced slightly once more.

As the 3 seconds were about to pass, Shi Feng tossed out another Intermediate Frost Grenade, turning these Ferocious Evil Spirits into ice sculptures yet again.

This time, the Intermediate Frost Grenade only managed to cause -860 damage to the monsters. However, the damage was enough to reduce the HP of these Ferocious Evil Spirits to a critical level.

These Ferocious Evil Spirits truly did not imagine a weakling like Shi Feng was so powerful. Within a short timespan of less than ten seconds, he managed to send all of them near death's door. Every one of these Ferocious Evil Spirits revealed expressions of fear. They started to struggle out of the ice with all their might, their hearts filled with thoughts of escape.

Unfortunately, their efforts were for naught. As another second passed, Shi Feng threw out the third Intermediate Frost Grenade, taking the lives of the dozen-plus Ferocious Evil Spirits. After their deaths, the Ferocious Evil Spirits dropped a pile of loot.

System: Level 15 Ferocious Evil Spirit killed. Level difference of 6. EXP obtained increased by 600%.
Obtained 12,000 EXP.

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System: Level 15 Ferocious Evil Spirit killed. Level difference of 6. EXP obtained increased by 600%.
Obtained 12,000 EXP.

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A series of notification appeared in Shi Feng's sight. Immediately, Shi Feng's experience bar rose to 54% of Level 9, pushing him closer to the Level 10 threshold.

Without the leadership of the Ferocious Evil Spirits, the instincts of the Cursed Evil Spirits towards flesh and blood immediately flared, all of them fervently squeezing through the entrance of the private house. However, Shi Feng quickly dealt with them using the Basic Frost Grenades, and the deaths of the Cursed Evil Spirits increasing his experience to 67% of Level 9.

In less than two hours, Shi Feng rose by more than two levels. Although his leveling speed was impressively quick, the money he spent to do so was equally astonishing. Such a method of leveling was only possible to a tycoon like Shi Feng. After all, each Basic Frost Grenade cost 1 Silver, 50 Coppers. Aside from the fact that Shi Feng had used over 400 Basic Frost Grenades, he also used three Intermediate Frost Grenades, which cost 10 Silver Coins each. All in all, Shi Feng spent over 6 Gold Coins to achieve such a leveling speed. If converted to Credits, that would be over 60,000 Credits spent on this endeavor.

In other words, each level cost Shi Feng over 30,000 Credits. Even the elite members of society could not afford such spending.

Following which, Shi Feng collected the drops from the monsters.

With the entire street of ghosts murdered by Shi Feng, it took him over half an hour to collect all the loot that dropped.

Making a rough calculation, Shi Feng discovered that he actually did not take a loss. Instead, he profited from this adventure of his.

Shi Feng picked up a total of 1 Gold, 32 Silvers. Amongst the loot, there were also over 3,000 Tiny Spirit Essences, more than ten skill books for various classes, tens of pieces of Level 12 and Level 13 Common Equipment, over twenty pieces of Level 10 and above Bronze Equipment, and two pieces of Level 15 Mysterious-Iron Equipment.

As for the two pieces of Mysterious-Iron Equipment, one was a Level 15 cloth shirt for mages, and the other was a Level 15 two-handed great ax. Between the two, the weapon was the most valuable.

The mage shirt could be sold for over 1 Gold Coin, while the great ax would sell for at least 2 Gold Coins. As for the Bronze Equipment, each piece would sell for at least 20 Silver Coins. Shi Feng's profit was simply through the roof.

This place is so profitable. I'll bring Blackie and the others to level up in the future. Shi Feng felt this was an optimal location. Not to mention the fact that he made a profit despite all the money he spent, his level also increased in a flash, killing two birds with one stone.

However, he still needed some time before making a decision. Right now, he needed to let the others slowly familiarize themselves with the battle methods in the newly-evolved God's Domain. If they only depended on the Frost Grenades to level up, their techniques would never improve.

After clearing out the ghosts from the entire street, Shi Feng effortlessly arrived at the central plaza of the Hundred Ghost Town.

Although there were no longer any ghosts left on the street, the central plaza was still densely packed with even larger numbers than before.

Meanwhile, at the center of the plaza, a faint blue flame burned brightly above a fountain, giving off a deep blue glow. This flame was the Ice-Blue Devil Flame, and it was currently guarded by Ferocious Evil Spirits. Furthermore, there was a knight, clad in jet-black armor, standing among the Ferocious Evil Spirits. The knight carried a silver-colored greatsword on its back, and both its eyes gave off a green glow as it stood quietly by the side. All of the ghosts surrounding this knight treated it with respect, awaiting his command.

The nature of this knight was different than the other ghosts. Its entire body was just a skeleton covered in faint-blue flames. The heat given off by those flames caused the land around it to dry up and crack.

[Ghost Rider] (Chieftain Rank)

Level 15

HP 100,000/100,000

As expected, it is very strong. It's no wonder Glorious Light lost several hundreds of their elite players after battling the Ghost Rider. Just by looking at it, Shi Feng knew it would be impossible for him to have a direct confrontation with the Ghost Rider.

Without several hundred elite players, it was an impossible task to kill the Ghost Rider. Moreover, there were also thousands of Cursed Evil Spirits and Ferocious Evil Spirits present.

Chapter 128 - Engaging the Ghost Rider

The flames in the Ghost Rider's eyes flickered, its emotions impossible to discern. However, none of the Ferocious Evil Spirits dared to approach within 20 yards of it.

With the frightening prowess of the Ghost Rider, even if Shi Feng had risen to Level 20 and brought along a 20-man elite team, he would still fail to kill the Ghost Rider. Moreover, there was a 90% chance they would be wiped out instead.

The Ghost Rider was simply too strong.

At this stage of the game, many Guilds would occasionally encounter a few Elite or Special Elite monsters, and they could usually deal with these monsters with only a party or a team. However, after the evolution of God's Domain, even only a Level 5 Chieftain Ranked monster could completely wipe out a 20-man team filled with Level 5 elite players. Moreover, a monster over Level 10 would have their intellect greatly boosted.

A Level 10 Chieftain needed at least thirty Level 15 elite players to deal with, and even then, the number casualties would be very high.

As for a high-leveled Chieftain like the Ghost Rider, it possessed a large variety of AOE damaging skills. It was also capable of commanding all the ghosts in the entire Hundred Ghost Town. Although it was only a Level 15 monster, its raid difficulty was even above that of a Level 20 Chieftain.

Glorious Light had sent out thousands of its members to slay the Ghost Rider, paying a very heavy price.

Currently, Shi Feng lacked both resources and influence. Not mentioning the gap of 6 Levels, he was also alone in this place. He had absolutely no chance of challenging the Ghost Rider.

It seems I can only use that method.

Shi Feng observed the situation in the center of the plaza, inwardly running calculations and simulations in his mind.

Right now, he stood over 300 yards from the fountain. If he wanted to obtain the Ice-Blue Devil Flame, first and foremost, he needed to dispose of all these Cursed Evil Spirits and Ferocious Evil Spirits, then finally, deal with the Ghost Rider. As long as there was the tiniest of mistakes, he would end up dead and sent back to town.

Shi Feng took out two Tier 2 Magic Scrolls. These were the only two remaining treasured scrolls he had left. It would be extremely difficult for him to obtain another one in the future, as obtaining these scrolls largely depended on one's luck.

If it weren't for obtaining the Ice-Blue Devil Flame, he would not even be using such precious items.

Phantom Kill, Shi Feng inwardly chanted, a doppelganger of him slowly forming into being.

Shi Feng immediately passed over a dozen Frost Grenades to his doppelganger. The doppelganger then rushed towards the plaza.

The moment the doppelganger set foot into the plaza, the Ghost Rider discovered it immediately. The Ghost Rider's pearly white skull turned towards the doppelganger, the flames in its eye-sockets flaring.

"All living beings must die!"

The Ghost Rider unsheathed the silver greatsword from its back, pointing it at the doppelganger. The blue flames surrounding its body abruptly moved to engulf the greatsword as well, warping the greatsword in shape. The pommel of the sword transformed into a white-colored skull and sinister-looking barbed tips appeared on the blade.

Following the Ghost Rider's command, the countless Cursed Evil Spirits in the plaza surged towards the doppelganger like a tidal wave.

The doppelganger activated a Speed Scroll. It then tossed out a Frost Grenade, instantly turning a large group of Cursed Evil Spirits into ice sculptures, before turning to escape.

On Shi Feng's side, he activated Windwalk and used a Speed Scroll, then activating the Ring of Nothingness. Once in the state of nothingness, Shi Feng dashed towards the fountain like a fierce gale.

As the duration of the state of nothingness quickly flew by, Shi Feng's distance between the fountain shortened.

300 yards...

200 yards...

100 yards...

As Shi Feng was about to arrive at the fountain, his grip on the two Tier 2 Magic Scrolls tightened. His expression became abnormally calm as both his eyes fixated on the heart of the fountain.

“Little rat, did you think that you could hide from my eyes?”

The Ghost Rider suddenly appeared before Shi Feng, and as if the flames in its eyes could see past all things, it spoke in a deep, disdainful tone. The Ghost Rider then raised its White Bone Greatsword, the faint blue flames surrounding the sword immediately raising the surrounding temperature to scorching-hot levels. With an abrupt wave, the greatsword transformed into a flowing stream of light, splitting apart the air as it descended towards Shi Feng’s head.

How could it be?!

Shi Feng was shocked. He did not doubt that the Ghost Rider’s sword had the capability of instantly killing him. Hence, both his legs curved into a bend, his body similarly bending downwards. Like a cat arching its body, Shi Feng instantly pulled out both the Abyssal Blade and the Crimson Blade, using Parry with both swords. Suddenly, Shi Feng’s legs burst with strength, and with the addition of the strength from his lower back, Shi Feng charged directly at the descending greatsword.

The three swords colliding with each other created an explosive sound.

The Ghost Rider's immense strength caused the ground that Shi Feng stood on to crack apart; dust and debris scattered. Shi Feng's body, as well, was removed from the state of nothingness, revealed beside the fountain.

Although Shi Feng did not receive any damage from the collision, the flames of the White Bone Greatsword were just too blistering. As the Abyssal Blade was a Magic Weapon, there were no problems with it. However, the Secret-Silver Ranked Crimson Blade was different. Not only was its durability greatly reducing, but the Crimson Blade itself also turned a glowing red and even showed signs of melting.

Meanwhile, the Ghost Rider was slightly shocked that its sword did not yield it an immediate victory. However, it waved its sword for a second strike. The flames on the White Bone Greatsword soared, rising over 5 meters into the air as the sword slashed at Shi Feng.

This was the Ghost Rider's Devil Flame Slash. When this move was used, all beings in its path would lose their lives and reduce to ashes.

However, contrary to expectations, Shi Feng did not retreat when faced with this attack. Instead, he activated Defensive Blade as he rushed towards the Ice-Blue Devil Flame.

Although the Ghost Rider's Devil Flame Slash landed on Shi Feng, it had no effect at all. Instead, Shi Feng made use of the wave of steam generated by the White Bone Greatsword to further increase his speed.

Just as Shi Feng was about to reach the Ice-Blue Devil Flame, as if they had been long since prepared for this moment, tens of Ferocious Evil Spirits rushed at him.

Become frozen!

Shi Feng threw out an Intermediate Frost Grenade, turning all the Ferocious Evil Spirits into ice sculptures.

“A bunch of rubbish...!” seeing that its subordinates were actually so useless, the Ghost Rider loudly cursed. It abruptly leaped, its body landing and blocking Shi Feng. Its greatsword then slashed downwards, “Die, little rat!”

Abyssal Bind!

Nine pitch-black chains instantly bound the Ghost Rider, saving Shi Feng’s life.

However, the Ghost Rider’s strength was just too immense. In the blink of an eye, one of the chains snapped. Seeing this, Shi Feng dared not stop his movements as he ran towards the fountain.

“Wretched little rat, you have truly angered me this time!” the Ghost Rider roared as it saw that Shi Feng was already beside the Ice-Blue Devil Flame. It struggled free from the chains binding it, its body turning into a shadow as it swept towards Shi Feng, fully intending to dice him into chunks of meat.

Due to the Ghost Rider’s flames, the freezing effect of the Frost Grenades was also greatly weakened. The Ferocious Evil Spirits were quickly thawed from their icy prisons, all of them rushing at Shi Feng once more.

Shi Feng only revealed a faint smile at this sight. He spread opened the deep blue-colored Tier 2 Magic Scroll in his hands.

Within an instant, the water-attributed mana from the surrounding environment gathered above the magic scroll.

Tidal Overflow!

Shi Feng pointed the magic scroll towards the incoming Ghost Rider and Ferocious Evil Spirits, a dark blue magic circle forming above the scroll. Immediately, a violent torrent poured out of the magic circle, engulfing the Ghost Rider and the Ferocious Evil Spirits. The resulting water pressure even caused a deep pit to form on the ground.

The power of a Tier 2 spell instantly killed all of the Ferocious Evil Spirits. However, this magic had not greatly damaged the Ghost Rider as, during the moment of life and death, the Ghost Rider used its White Bone Greatsword to block the Tidal Overflow. As a result, the ferocious torrent only pushed back the Ghost Rider by over 30 yards. At such a distance, the Ghost Rider would only need a few steps to reach Shi Feng.

However, time was needed to retrieve the Ice-Blue Devil Flame, time which the Ghost Rider would not give Shi Feng.

Just as the Ghost Rider took its first rage-filled step towards Shi Feng...

Shi Feng took out the last golden-colored scroll in his hands. The scroll gave off a sacred and inviolable strength, and it was also Shi Feng's final trump card.

“Wretched little rat, feel the wrath of the flames of hell!” the flames in the eye-sockets of the Ghost Rider were capable of seeing through all things, and when it saw the scroll within Shi Feng’s hand, it revealed a human-like disdainful expression.

Although the might of a Tier 2 magic was great, it was not enough to deal a heavy blow. Furthermore, how many Tier 2 Magic Scrolls could Shi Feng possibly possess?

If the other players knew the Ghost Rider’s thoughts, they would definitely not think the Ghost Rider was an NPC, but an actual player. However, after the evolution of God’s Domain, the intellect of these high ranking monsters was simply that high.

At this moment, the faint blue flames surrounding the Ghost Rider all disappeared. The flames had all gathered on the White Bone Greatsword, boosting the flames by ten-fold.

“All living beings must die!” the Ghost Rider bellowed.

The berserk roar resounded throughout the entire central plaza as the Ghost Rider abruptly threw the White Bone Greatsword in its hand.

The instant the White Bone Greatsword left the Ghost Rider’s hands, it transformed into a faint blue-colored flame serpent. The flame serpent was over ten meters in length, and if coiled into a bundle, it would look like a small building. The serpent spread open its mouth, biting towards Shi Feng.

As the ferocious flame serpent grew closer and closer...

Shi Feng still had yet to activate the final Tier 2 Magic Scroll in his hand.

This magic scroll was different from the other magic scrolls in that it needed some time to take effect after being activated.

Hurry! Please hurry!

Hurry, dammit!

As the flame serpent flew closer and closer, Shi Feng started panicking. However, the activation bar still increased slowly as always.

Just as the flame serpent's widened mouth was about to devour Shi Feng, the activation bar finished loading.

System: A Mysterious-Iron Ranked Weapon or above is needed to be sacrificed. Confirm to sacrifice?

Without hesitation, Shi Feng chose to sacrifice. As for the sacrificed weapon, it was the Crimson Blade he held in his hand. At this moment, the Crimson Blade had already reduced to just scrap metal, and it would be meaningless for Shi Feng to continue holding onto it.

In the blink of an eye, the Crimson Blade in his hand released a bright golden glow, illuminating the entire central plaza. At the same time, with Shi Feng as the focal point, a large golden magic circle appeared. The magic circle then ascended to the skies at high speeds.

When the golden glow shone upon the flame serpent, it wailed in agony.

Following which, the Crimson Blade transformed into a stream of light, shooting up to the air. In the next instant, the stream of light transformed into thousands of Holy Swords of Light. The holy swords rained down from the sky, forming a holy domain in a 30-yard radius around Shi Feng.

The flame serpent, which was inside the domain, was immediately pinned down by tens of holy swords, its body unable to move even an inch. The flame serpent released an unwilling roar.

Made it at the last second... Shi Feng released a sigh as he looked at the thousands of holy swords surrounding him. The holy swords even encompassed the fountain as well. Immediately, Shi Feng started retrieving the Ice-Blue Devil Flame.

This golden magic scroll was the most powerful Tier 2 lifesaving Magic Scroll Shi Feng possessed, the Holy Sword Seal.

When used, all attacks within a 30-yard radius would be blocked, while all enemies within the affected area would be suppressed, preventing them from moving even an inch. However, the user would be unable to attack any of the enemies, and any outside enemies and attacks could not enter the holy domain. The duration of the holy domain was 36 seconds.

Due to these effects, the Holy Sword Seal was considered the strongest defensive scroll amongst all Tier 2 Magic Scrolls.

Meanwhile, Shi Feng only needed around 5 seconds to collect the Ice-Blue Devil Flame. In addition to the cast time of the Return Scroll, which needed 30 seconds, the total time was just about right.

The Ghost Rider outside of the holy barrier instantly entered a violent fury. It pulled out a White Bone Great Ax, swinging it at the holy barrier repeatedly like a god of death. Unfortunately, all its efforts yielded no results.

The Holy Sword Seal was the strongest defensive skill amongst all Tier 2 skills. Not to mention a Level 15 Chieftain's attacks, even if it were a normal Tier 3 skill, it could not easily destroy the holy barrier.

Very quickly, Shi Feng finished retrieving the scorching hot Tier 2 Mysterious Flame, the Ice-Blue Devil Flame. Though his heart was currently filled with extreme excitement, he suppressed it and activated Defensive Blade. He then started the chant for the Return Scroll.

"Despicable little rat, I will definitely make you suffer a living hell!" Seeing that Shi Feng had already retrieved the Ice-Blue Devil Flame, the Ghost Rider suddenly went berserk. The faint blue flames covering its body flared up several times greater than before, and it swung its White Bone Great Ax to the ground with all its might.

Boom! The entire central plaza started quivering. The ground of the plaza cracked apart, spitting out tens of pillars of flames, sending countless debris flying.

Only now was Shi Feng fully aware of how powerful the Ghost Rider was. The previous exchanges they had were not even a warm-up for the Ghost Rider. Fortunately, Shi Feng had the strongest Tier 2 defensive skill on his side. If it were only a Tier 1 defensive scroll, it could not have fended off the Ghost Rider at all.

Time flowed past, little by little. Though the Ghost Rider poured out attacks on the holy barrier like a madman, fortunately, none of them made any actual difference.

The Ghost Rider could only watch as Shi Feng completed the chant for the Return Scroll.

With only 2 seconds remaining for the chant to finish, the Holy Sword Shield's duration ended. At this moment, the Ghost Rider revealed a sinister smile as it dashed forward two steps, instantly arriving before Shi Feng. With its ax raised, the Ghost Rider struck down at Shi Feng.

Peng! The ax was unable to advance any further when it was several centimeters away from Shi Feng's body.

Shi Feng was shocked into a cold sweat. The Ghost Rider's speed was just too fast after becoming berserk. Even he could only barely see it move. Fortunately, he had activated Defensive Blade beforehand.

The Level 2 Defensive Blade could completely resist 4 melee attacks or 7 ranged attacks. Now that the skill blocked one attack, only three more blocks remained.

Seeing that its attack did nothing, the flame in the Ghost Rider's eye-sockets congealed slightly. It then started madly attacking Shi Feng.

Second strike!

Third strike!

Fourth strike!

Very quickly, all three of Shi Feng's remaining blocks were used up. The Ghost Rider then abruptly did a Horizontal Slash, intending to bisect Shi Feng in half.

At the moment of life and death, Shi Feng finished the Return Scroll's chant a step ahead. He then transformed into a white glow, vanishing.

The White Bone Ax only managed to slice the white glow in half, but not Shi Feng.

"Aooo!"

The Ghost Rider was incomparably furious. The Ice-Blue Devil Flame was its most valuable treasure. The reason it could turn from a Cursed Apparition into a Ghost Rider was all due to the Ice-Blue Devil Flame. As long as it had another half a year, it could once more evolve and become a Lord. With a Lord's strength, it could launch attacks at the living beings in the nearby Towns, slowly strengthening its army of ghosts. Now, however, the Ice-Blue Devil Flame was snatched away by a wretched little rat right before his eyes. So, just how was he supposed to not become angry?

After returning to Red Leaf Town, Shi Feng could not help but wipe away the cold sweat from his forehead.

If he were slower by even a millisecond, he would have definitely died. At that time, not only would he have wasted two Tier 2 Magic Scrolls, he would also need to wait a very long period before he could attempt to obtain the Ice-Blue Devil Flame again.

However, now that he had collected the Ice-Blue Devil Flame, everything returned to his control.

As for a high ranking Chieftain monster like the Ghost Rider, it was without a doubt a walking treasure trove. If Shi Feng were to kill it off, he wondered just how many good items would drop.

Before he went to the Hundred Ghost Forest, he once considered forming his own team in the future in order to raid the Ghost Rider. However, after meeting it, Shi Feng decided that it would be too troublesome to deal with the Ghost Rider. It would be much better if he just sold the information about the Ghost Rider. For example, he could sell the information to Gentle Snow or Stabbing Heart. After all, large Guilds all loved to hunt for Elite monsters in the wild, not to mention a Chieftain ranked monster. Every Chieftain ranked monster possessed a great sum of riches. Moreover, only these large Guilds could gather hundreds of players in Red Leaf Town within a short amount of time. When they reached White River City, gathering even thousands of players would not be a problem.

There would be no problems if thousands of players were used to deal with the Ghost Rider. Only, the losses in doing so would be somewhat heavy. However, with the information provided by Shi Feng, raiding the Ghost Rider would become much easier.

Just as Shi Feng was about to go to the Forging Association to take a look at the Ice-Blue Devil Flame's Attributes, he discovered that many players in Red Leaf Town were currently discussing a single matter.

"Did you hear? Martial Union has already released an announcement that they will reward 10,000 Credits to whoever kills Ye Feng once. There is also a reward of 1,000 Credits for killing Ye Feng's teammates. The person who provides accurate information on Ye Feng's whereabouts will also receive 2 Silver Coins as a reward. With this, Martial Union truly intends to start a blood feud with Ye Feng!"

"I've heard about it already. The topic has long since blown up in the official forums. Right now, there are plenty of players searching around. Even if they can't kill that expert called Ye Feng, they could still kill one of his teammates. A thousand Credits per kill, this isn't a small number. This time, that expert called Ye Feng will not have an easy time mingling in Red Leaf Town."



Chapter 130 - If it's War They Want, Then it's War They'll Get

Red Leaf Town, Slum Area, The Enchanted Bar:

Ironsword Lion and several of his subordinates currently held a drinking party in one of the private rooms on the second floor of The Enchanted Bar. They heartily downed mouthfuls of Old Tom Gin[1] one after another.

An hour ago, Ironsword Lion posted a Guild announcement on the official forums. He had placed a bounty on Ye Feng, intending to start an irreconcilable feud with him. In an instant, Martial Union had become the center of attention of all players in God's Domain.

Who was Ye Feng?

Almost every veteran player within the region of White River City had heard of him.

Right now, Ye Feng's name was carved onto the Glory List at the entrance of the Team Dungeon, Dark Moon Graveyard.

After clearing the Team Dungeon, Ye Feng even killed the top-tier expert of Martial Union, Ironsword Lion. He was then publicly acknowledged as one of the Swordsman experts of God's Domain. The recording of Ye Feng killing Ironsword Lion even spread and was used as a learning model for many Swordsmen.

Aside from that, according to the rumors floating about, Ye Feng's relationship with the Snow Goddess was not just a shallow one, and they might be having an affair. Otherwise, why would a Goddess like Gentle Snow, instead of choosing the elite members of her own Guild, choose to take an outsider along into the Dark Moon Graveyard?

Many players had long since felt unsatisfied with Ye Feng, and now, with a bounty on him, many players were already tempted into action. Martial Union offered ten thousand Credits for killing Shi Feng just once! Moreover, not only would they be able to obtain the prize money, but they would also obtain immense fame for killing a publicly acknowledged expert of God's Domain. Such a feat would prove that their strength was exceptional.

Right now, the major financial corporations around the world were beginning their investment into God's Domain, recruiting players for their own Workshops and Guilds. As long as one could prove their strength, they could earn the good graces of these major corporations, receiving very high treatment. So, why not go for it?

"Boss Ironsword, this move of yours is just too clever! With this announcement, that Ye Feng is dead for sure this time! Even if he doesn't die, the target on his back will still annoy him to death. Other players will hunt throughout the entire day; he won't even be able to level up," Drifting Blood flattered as he took a drink.

"Humph! That's nothing at all. The best part has yet to come." Ironsword Lion sneered, "Now that the son of a bitch has hidden, nobody can find him at all. However, it won't matter. I believe that we can find his teammates. As long as we kill his teammates to Level 0, I hardly believe that he will remain hidden. As long as he dares reveal himself, Absolute Heaven will immediately take action. It will be his death when that time comes."

Just as Ironsword Lion laughed coldly, Shi Feng received a communication request from someone on his friend list.

“Are you alright?” Gentle Snow abruptly asked.

Shi Feng was slightly astonished. He did not imagine that even Gentle Snow would worry for him. He shook his head, saying, “I’m fine.”

“If things get too difficult for you to handle, I can utilize the strength of Ouroboros in White River City region to deal with Martial Union. That way, Martial Union will very quickly give up on you.” Although Gentle Snow had downplayed her words, Shi Feng knew just how frightening it would be if Ouroboros went all out against Martial Union. Just the tens of thousands of Gentle Snow’s fans alone were enough to extinguish Martial Union, not to mention when the many experts of Ouroboros took action. Martial Union would not hold on for even a few days before needing to disband.

“Thanks. I’ll be careful,” Shi Feng said in gratitude.

Shortly after ending the call with Gentle Snow, another suddenly arrived.

“Brother Ye Feng, are you alright?” Stabbing Heart asked.

“I’m fine,” Shi Feng replied, a smile appearing on his face. He couldn’t help but feel a sense of déjà vu.

“It’s good that you’re alright. I saw Martial Union declare war on you. Moreover, they even placed a bounty on your head, paying as much as 10,000 Credits for every kill. The bounty even includes several friends of yours, with 1,000 Credits for each of them. Many of the experts I know have all taken an interest in you, and they will definitely look for trouble with you. It would be troublesome if you tangle with so many people, so it is best if you stay hidden for a while. Otherwise, you can level up with us. With the Assassin’s Alliance’s reputation, those experts will give way. If we meet any fools, my side can also help you deal with them.”

Shi Feng could not help but feel grateful towards Stabbing Heart's worries. He said, "Thanks, but I'll deal with this matter myself. On the contrary, would Brother Stabbing Heart be interested in buying some high-level equipment? I have a few pieces, and I can sell them to you at a low price."

Shi Feng still possessed plenty of the equipment he obtained from the Moonlight Forest. Right now, the prices for equipment were at their highest. Their values would depreciate if he sold them in the future, so he might as well sell them to Stabbing Heart right now, turning them into money.

Shi Feng previously considered selling the equipment to Gentle Snow. However, Gentle Snow possessed a greater understanding of him than Stabbing Heart. It would be bad if she discovered something unnecessary about him. Hence, Stabbing Heart was the best choice to sell the equipment to in this case.

"Really? With the new influx of players right now, our Guild became sorely lacking in equipment. If you could sell them at a lower price and trade fully using Credits, then I will buy as much as you have."

Right now, the available equipment on the market was fervently contested over. Meanwhile, Stabbing Heart knew Shi Feng would have a lot of equipment. After all, Shi Feng managed to clear the Dark Moon Graveyard. That meant that the other Party Dungeons would be easy pickings for him. Moreover, Shi Feng only had a single party under his command. He would definitely possess plenty of extra equipment. If Stabbing Heart could purchase all of it, it would be a huge boost to his Guild.

"I'm busy right now. How about we meet up and trade inside the Hotel at the Trade Area?" Shi Feng asked.

"That would be great! I also need to some time to collect the money needed," Stabbing Heart replied with a smile.

Following which, Shi Feng disconnected the call with Stabbing Heart. He then sent a message to Blackie and the others, telling them to be careful of ambushes from other players.

Currently, with Blackie and the others' equipment and level, a dozen or so average players could not do anything to them at all. Shi Feng was only afraid of those elite players taking action. Blackie and the others would not have an easy time if they truly met up with such players. Hence, it would be best if they took precautions early on.

After receiving the information, Blackie immediately led the others to depart from their current grinding spot. They went to an even more secretive location Shi Feng gave them. It would not be easily discovered, even by those pro players.

“Martial Union, since you guys want war, then to war we shall go!” Shi Feng's eyes flashed with a cold glint.

Shi Feng's mind constantly considered how he should earn money in God's Domain and his future development in the game. He did not imagine Martial Union would send a top-tier Assassin at him, and even go further to place a bounty on his head. They had gone too far. Did Martial Union think he would be helpless against them?

Shi Feng immediately logged onto the official forums. Using the name Ye Feng, he sent out a declaration.

Martial Union, since you guys want war, then to war we shall go!

I now place a bounty on all players from Martial Union! As long as you can kill a normal member of the Guild, you will receive a reward of 100 Credits or 1 Silver Coin! For one of the upper echelons of the

Guild, every kill will earn 1,000 Credits or 10 Silver Coins! As for Ironsword Lion, I will pay you 5,000 Credits or 50 Silver Coins for every time you kill him!

This bounty will be effective until Martial Union completely disappears from Red Leaf Town!

After Shi Feng issued the post, it instantly caused a sensation in the forums of all of White River City region, giving rise to a raging tempest.

A single independent player actually dared to declare war against a large Guild. This was a first in the entire God's Domain.

Before this, one would only hear about Guilds issuing bounties on a single player. It was the first time players had actually seen a single person place a bounty on an entire Guild. The players who read Shi Feng's post were completely astonished.

If a large Guild acted rich and overbearing, then so be it. However, they never imagined an independent player would also make such a move. Said player even placed bounties on every single member of a Guild. Although it was only limited to the area within Red Leaf Town, a large Guild would still have several hundreds of players there. The money needed for such a feat was impressive, and such a way of spending was no different than running water. Even tycoons would not dare play in such a way.