

The Strongest

Chapter 211 - Brilliant Effect

Although Shi Feng's tone was soft, power filled his voice. It caused the female healers nearby to tremble, nearly failing to cast their heals on the two MTs.

The two MTs tanking the four Elite monsters were similarly shocked stiff, receiving a direct hit from the giant steel axes of the Beastman Warriors. Damages of over -400 points appeared above both MTs, and the two retreated close to half a dozen steps before they managed to stabilize themselves.

The other damage-dealing team members also froze. They all stared at Shi Feng with dumbfounded gazes, thinking that their ears had played a trick on them.

Replace the MTs?

What kind of joke was this? The two players tanking the Elite monsters belonged to the top three MTs of the Guild. Yet, Shi Feng wanted to replace them with someone else? Wasn't he just looking for trouble?

Shi Feng's decision would be understandable if the two MTs had made an error while luring the monsters, or lost the monsters' aggro. However, neither of the MTs made such mistakes. So, why should they be replaced?

"Did they do something wrong?" Cruel Sword asked.

MTs were the core of a team. A powerful MT could greatly reduce the raiding difficulty of a Dungeon; a team should never rashly replace their MTs.

“Nothing.” Shi Feng shook his head. Indeed, the two MTs did not make any mistakes up until this point. However, not making any mistakes did not necessarily mean that everything was fine.

Capable of holding aggro and taking blows, if this were a normal virtual reality game, there would be no problems if the MTs of a team could perform these two tasks.

However, God’s Domain was different. Just carrying out these tasks was still not enough to secure a victory for the team.

“Since there are no problems, why should we need to replace the MTs?” Cruel Sword wrinkled his eyebrows.

The two MTs in question were furious right now, clearly displaying their displeasure. Shi Feng was just someone they had invited, yet, he dared criticize such powerful MTs like themselves? Wasn’t he being too arrogant?

“Their ability to evade attacks is just too poor. To put it bluntly, they are taking too much damage. When they face a Boss, even four healers will not be sufficient to keep them alive. Moreover, their damage output is too low. In a Boss battle, even 1% of HP could decide victory or defeat.”

“I’m guessing that, when you guys faced the first Boss of this Dungeon, aside from having insufficient damage, your healers’ mana ran dry as well. In the end, the result was a complete team-wipe,” Shi Feng said with a smile.

Listening to Shi Feng's words, the two MTs immediately fell speechless...

Cruel Sword was also awestruck. Clearly, he had not mentioned the matter of their team-wiped to Shi Feng before. Yet, Shi Feng correctly guessed each detail of their previous encounter.

Everything Shi Feng had just said was clear and logical, and Cruel Sword agreed that he needed to make some changes.

"I wonder if Brother Ye Feng has any suggestions on how we can improve? What kind of MT do we need?" Cruel Sword earnestly sought Shi Feng's guidance.

The other members of the Assassin's Alliance were no fools, either. They had discerned the meaning behind Shi Feng's words. As a result, the dissatisfaction they felt towards Shi Feng in their hearts lessened greatly, while respect slightly grew. Each of them perked up, focusing Shi Feng's wise opinion.

"It's very simple. Look for two Guardian Knights who have allocated their Free Attribute Points in the ratio of 2 Strength: 1 Agility: 2 Endurance. It would be best if they have learned both Guardian Aura and Power Aura," Shi Feng unhurriedly spoke.

Unknowingly, Shi Feng had suddenly become the heart of the team.

Within moments, Cruel Sword had found two Guardian Knights from his Guild that fit Shi Feng's requirements. However, these Guardian Knights' techniques were not anything impressive, and their equipment was sub-par at best.

One of them was White Feather, and he only possessed slightly over 1,700 HP. The other Guardian Knight was called Water Lake, and his HP was just over 1,800 points. Furthermore, the two's Defense was lower than the previous MTs by more than 200 points; they were on completely different levels.

However, Shi Feng saw nothing amiss after examining the two's equipment. The remaining problem would be their techniques. Shi Feng then continued by explaining to the two Guardian Knights how they should battle the Elite monsters and how they should dodge attacks. As for how much of his explanation they actually understood, that would depend on their own comprehensive abilities.

Following which, Shi Feng instructed one of the Guardian Knights to activate Guardian Aura, increasing the Defense of the entire team by 20 points. He then instructed the other Guardian Knight to activate Power Aura, increasing the Strength of the entire team by 5 points. Shi Feng also switched his title to Might of a Thousand, greatly increasing the Attributes of the entire team. As a result, the HP of the two Guardian Knights almost reached the 2,000 HP threshold.

The team's jaws dropped when they witnessed the brilliant effect brought about by Shi Feng's Might of a Thousand title.

Increasing all Attributes by 10%? This was an outstanding weapon for Dungeon raiding. Such an increase was the equivalent of raising every team member's equipment by an entire rank.

With such a brilliant effect, they had far more confidence in dealing with the Bosses of the Dungeon.

Hence, everyone started clearing the Elite monsters with great excitement.

When they first started out, everyone still felt skeptical about Shi Feng's decision to replace the two MTs. It was simply illogical to replace their previously powerful MTs with weaker ones. However, shortly after the two Guardian Knights began tanking the Elite monsters, they immediately discovered that there was a massive difference.

Although the Beastman Warriors dealt around -450 damage to the two Guardian Knights with each hit, these Beastman Warriors only managed to land one out of every three attacks. In comparison, the previous two MTs would receive two out of every three attacks, taking an additional -150 damage every three attacks. With such a glaring difference in damage, the burden on the healers greatly lessened. Moreover, as they faced more battles, the two new MTs gradually evaded with better efficiency, taking fewer hits as a result. This had allowed the healers to expend less of their mana, thereby increasing their endurance.

By the time they arrived before the first Boss of the Dungeon, Karur, the healers no longer felt any pressure in healing the two Guardian Knights. They even had time to attend to the other team members.

Karur was a large and ferocious Beastman. He was twice as large as a normal Beastman, and his body was fully covered in steel-like, scarlet muscles. On his back, Karur carried a mammoth magical saber that was as long as he was tall. Meanwhile, Karur himself was a Level 12 High Chieftain ranked Boss with a whopping 450,000 HP.

“Brother Ye Feng, I wonder if you have any ideas of how to best raid this Boss?” When facing with Karur once again, Cruel Sword’s thoughts started growing heavy. After all, Karur had already team-wiped them multiple times.

“MTs should hold aggro properly, while everyone else should evade Karur’s skills. That should be it, I guess,” Shi Feng casually spoke after giving the question some thought.

Everyone in the team immediately sent contemptful glares at Shi Feng.

Wasn’t this just a bunch of nonsense!? Wasn’t that obvious?!

“Alright, MTs, take action. You two should take turns tanking the Boss. Whoever’s HP falls to a critical state should immediately back off and let the other tank. As for everyone else, try to use your attacks to assist the two MTs,” Shi Feng instructed.

Shortly after, the two Guardian Knights charged at Karur.

According to Shi Feng’s knowledge, the Hard Mode Karur only had two moves.

One was the Blade Storm. It was a skill that turned Karur into a tornado, causing -600 damage per second to all enemies within a 12-yard distance. The skill had a duration of 20 seconds.

The other skill was Avatar Slash. When Karur used this skill, he would immediately vanish from everyone’s sight. He would then randomly reappear behind three to five players, attacking them and causing -500 static damage. Simultaneously, he would inflict players with a Damage Amplification effect, causing them to take 10% more damage for 2 minutes. To make things worse, this effect stacked.

With these two skills at Karur’s disposal, the Boss prevented players from turning this raid into a prolonged battle. Otherwise, once the Damage Amplification effect stacked so many times, Karur’s Avatar Slash could instant-kill any player. At that time, there would be no way for the battle to continue. Hence, there was only one requirement when facing Karur: resolve the battle in the shortest time possible. The longer the battle dragged on, the more difficult it would become.

Taking the lead, the Guardian Knight, Water Lake, brandished his sword, sending a Punishment at Karur’s head. The attack only caused -126 damage. Compared to the Elite monsters from before, Karur’s Defense was clearly a notch higher. Moreover, such a small amount of damage was practically negligible in the face of Karur’s massive 450,000 HP.

By contrast, as Water Lake failed to dodge Karur's counter-attack; the Boss's saber sent him flying. A frightening damage of -1,134 points appeared above Water Lake's head, instantly devouring over half of his total HP. Following which, White Feather promptly dashed forward and activated Righteous Fury. He then used Shield of Vengeance to attract Karur's aggro.

The four healers on the team did not dare make any mistakes. They immediately cast their heals on Water Lake.

+234, +215, +221, +225

A Cleric then released an instant-cast skill, Recover, on Water Lake. Every three seconds for 15 seconds, the target would recover 70 HP. Simultaneously, a Druid also used Life Bloom on Water Lake, recovering 43 HP every two seconds for 12 seconds.

Immediately, Water Lake's HP recovered to 90%. He then returned to his position on the frontlines, coordinating with White Feather to tank the Boss.

Chapter 212 - Raiding Karur

By taking turns attacking Karur, the two Guardian Knights quickly established a strong hold on Karur's aggro. However, compared to when they battled Elite monsters, the pressure on the healers had visibly increased.

Moreover, both Water Lake and White Feather were clearly unfamiliar with the Boss's attack patterns; their movements were somewhat stiff when dodging attacks. Right now, they could only dodge every other sent at them. Even so, compared to the last time the Assassin's Alliance had raided Karur, the

healers were having a slightly easier time keeping these MTs alive. The healers' mana consumption made this obvious.

Originally, Cruel Sword still worried that the two Guardian Knights could not manage. However, based on the results before him, it was clearly an unnecessary thought. The healers managed themselves with perfect order right now, unlike the several raids before where they had to cast their heals desperately, without caring about any proper order. The four healers couldn't even catch their breaths unless they wanted the previous two MTs to die instantly.

In reality, such failures were very common. In God's Domain, Level 10 players had a large threshold to overcome. The levels before Level 10 were merely an adaptation period. Once players reached Level 10, they would no longer receive any preferential treatment. Hence, entering a Level 10, 20-man Hard Mode Team Dungeon at Level 10 was the equivalent of entering a Level 5, 20-man Hell Mode Team Dungeon at Level 5. How could it possibly be easy?

In addition, Bosses would have much higher intelligence. It would take a certain degree of skill to hold the aggro of a Boss and prevent it from attacking the ranged classes and healers. MTs especially needed to know how to pin down and restrain the Boss monsters, as just having aggro did not mean that the Boss would only hit the MT. After all, even with aggro, Boss monsters would still find an opportune moment to massacre the healers, the weakest players on the team. When this occurred, MTs had the task of restraining the Boss, preventing it from attacking the healers. Hence, the requirements for an MT's techniques were very high.

If the previous MTs were currently tanking the Boss, they would fare much better than Water Lake and White Feather regarding techniques. They had simply made a mistake during the allocation of their Free Attribute Points. However, there was no way to reset one's Attribute Points in God's Domain, so these two players could only be replaced. Moreover, for a long time, these two players would have to allocate all the Free Attribute Points they obtained from leveling up into both Strength and Agility. Otherwise, they would cripple their characters.

"Everyone, start attacking now. Berserkers and Swordsmen, assist the MTs in blocking some attacks. Focus your attacks on the Boss's weapons or arms, and aim your attacks where they can interrupt the Boss's attack. As for ranged classes, focus on dealing as much damage as you can," Shi Feng commanded.

Immediately, a group of players charged forward to give Karur a beating, while the ranged players launched their bombardment at Karur.

-124, -137, -108, -189, -175...

One damage after another appeared above Karur's head. However, the damage was not particularly high. Among these, the highest damage dealt belonged to the Berserker, Cruel Sword. His normal attacks could deal around -266 damage with each hit, while a Violent Strike could deal up to -448 damage. Right behind Cruel Sword was Stabbing Heart. As Stabbing Heart was an Assassin, his normal attacks could only deal around -120 damage with each hit. However, his attack rate was much faster than Cruel Sword's. Meanwhile, a 5-star Eviscerate decimated 587 HP from Karur.

Ranking in third was the team's cute and lovable little sister, the Elementalist, Mu Qing. She was the captain of the Assassin's Alliance's Elementalist team, and her techniques were first-rate. She was also one of the famous female Elementalists in Star-Moon Kingdom; she could rank within the top 100 Elementalists within Star-Moon Kingdom. Every one of her attacks could deal around -300 to -400 damage, but due to her spells requiring a long time to cast, her overall damage was slightly less than the two aforementioned players.

Originally, Cruel Sword had intended to say to Shi Feng, "Look! Isn't our team's damage output powerful? Why don't you join our Guild? The position of First Vice Leader will be yours if you do!"

However, when Cruel Sword saw Shi Feng charging at Karur, subsequently slashing his sword at Karur, Cruel Sword was immediately dumbfounded. His words shrunk back into a secluded location in his mind.

Shi Feng's two casual slashes dealt damages of -395 and -376 to Karur. Immediately after, Shi Feng followed up with a Level 10 Chop. The skill achieved a critical hit, instantly causing -2,137 damage to Karur. He then continued by using Thundering Flash, dealing damages of -643, -832, and -1,102 to Karur, as well as inflicting a damage amplification effect.

Shi Feng then abruptly jumped up into the air. As he descended, he smashed the Abyssal Blade covered in the power of thunder and fire down onto Karur's head. Suddenly, Karur let out a soul-piercing scream of pain.

Thunder Flame Explosion instantly caused -3,312 damage, and everyone on the team, aside from Shi Feng, became slack-jawed when they witnessed this scene.

If Water Lake had not reacted quickly by using Mock, followed by Righteous Punishment, Shi Feng might have snagged most, if not all, of Karur's aggro.

"Stabbing Heart, just where did you find a Swordsman expert as amazing as him?" Mu Qing's exquisite lips parted as she gaped and involuntarily questioned Stabbing Heart.

As Mu Qing had not started out in Red Leaf Town, she was not particularly knowledgeable about Shi Feng. Since the launch of God's Domain, she had always focused on leveling up and raiding Dungeons. Even after she entered White River City, she had not met many players who could surpass her.

Hence, Mu Qing naturally considered herself as a top-tier expert. However, Shi Feng had utterly shattered that belief. The highest damage she could deal was only around -700 points, and that was when she achieved a critical hit. Meanwhile, Shi Feng could casually deal over -700 damage with a single hit. Right now, he had even dealt over -3,000 damage to a High Chieftain ranked Boss. Mu Qing felt extremely embarrassed to think that she actually thought of herself as a top-tier expert. What a joke!

"Hehe, isn't this big brother amazing? Shortly after I started playing God's Domain, I discovered Brother Ye Feng's prowess! With such a massive damage output, the First Clear of this Hard Mode Dungeon will definitely be ours this time!" Stabbing Heart gleefully said. After all, he was the one who had invited Shi Feng to this raid. Now that Shi Feng performed so valiantly, shocking everyone on the team, Stabbing Heart felt extremely proud.

“Scram! You’re not Ye Feng; what’s there to be proud of?! If you have the ability, then show me that you can deal over 1,000 damage!” Mu Qing glared at Stabbing Heart.

“Little Sister Mu Qing, you think too highly of me! How can I compare to Brother Ye Feng? He is the publicly acknowledged god-ranked expert of White River City! His damage alone can trump over a dozen players! I would be satisfied if I had even a third of his damage.” Stabbing Heart smiled bitterly.

Shi Feng was a great expert just like Gentle Snow. He and Shi Feng were on entirely different levels, so how could he compare to Shi Feng?

Previously, the players who still had some complaints about Shi Feng now had none.

Shi Feng was simply too amazing. Not only were his attacks incredibly powerful, but the timing and techniques he applied to interrupt the Boss’s rhythm continuously were also praiseworthy. Every time one of Shi Feng’s swords attacked Karur, his other sword would simultaneously strike at Karur’s saber, shifting the Boss’s attack slightly. This situation allowed the two MTs to dodge Karur’s attacks with far more ease, greatly reducing the burden on the healers.

At this moment, everyone finally understood what a true Swordsman was. Aside from having fierce attacks, Shi Feng could also nimbly assist the MT. With such a Swordsman on the team, raiding the Dungeon became much easier than before. By making a rough estimate, their chances of victory had risen by at least twofold.

At this moment, Cruel Sword suddenly sent a private message to Mu Qing, “Mu Qing, you’re one of the great beauties in our Guild. You can see how amazing Ye Feng is; it would be a shame not to recruit him into our Guild. It wouldn’t be too good for a brute like me to invite him directly. Can you use your charms to persuade him to join us? If you manage to pull Ye Feng into our Guild, I can guarantee that your current treatment will increase by threefold, and you will also be promoted to an elder of the Guild.”

Cruel Sword also tried to think of a few other methods to recruit Shi Feng into the Assassin's Alliance. However, he immediately discovered that the Assassin's Alliance did not have any great benefits to Shi Feng. With Shi Feng's techniques, even first-rate Guilds would willingly wage a bloody battle with each other to recruit him. As for the price tag the Assassin's Alliance could offer, any first-rate Guilds could easily double or triple the amount. Hence, the only option Cruel Sword had remaining was to play the relationship card.

Looking at Shi Feng's age, he should only be in his early twenties. He was at the age where he should be both vigorous and passionate. Meanwhile, a great beauty like Mu Qing was perfect for this situation.

Although Cruel Sword hated resorting to such methods, the competition in God's Domain was just too intense. There were plenty of Guilds using similar tactics. If he continued being conservative, he might regret it in the future.

"Guild Leader, are you for real?" Mu Qing excitedly asked.

"Of course," Cruel Sword earnestly replied.

"Guild Leader, leave it to me! With this young lady's charm, I will definitely recruit Ye Feng into our Guild!" Mu Qing laughed coquettishly, her large eyes shifting towards Shi Feng.

Cruel Sword had similarly notified Stabbing Heart of his plan. However, Stabbing Heart simply shook his head and smiled bitterly after he heard it.

Stabbing Heart really wished to say, "If even a saint like Gentle Snow and a demoness like Zhao Yueru failed to capture Ye Feng's heart, I'm afraid Mu Qing will not have any chances at all."

Although Mu Qing was indeed a beauty as pretty as a flower, when Stabbing Heart gazed at Mu Qing's flat chest and recalled Gentle Snow's and Zhao Yueru's outstanding lethal weapons... They were on entirely different levels...

However, Stabbing Heart did not try to ruin Mu Qing's beautiful fantasy.

At this moment, Karur's HP had decreased to 50%. Suddenly, Karur let out an angry bellow.

"Everyone, get away from the Boss!" Shi Feng knew that Karur was about to use Blade Storm.

With Shi Feng's reminder, the elites of the Assassin's Alliance quickly distanced themselves more than 20 yards from Karur. Shortly after, Karur started spinning, transforming into a tornado that engulfed everything around it.

Even after Karur's Blade Storm ended, nobody from the team had died. At worst, there were some players who had their HP damaged to a critical point. However, they were healed back to full HP by the healers very quickly.

Following which, the team proceeded to decrease Karur's HP to 40%. Karur then started using his Avatar Slash. Although Karur only used Avatar Slash once every 20 seconds, there were bound to be some players who were extremely unlucky, chosen as targets for seven or eight consecutive times. For these unlucky players, surviving would be difficult regardless of how they held on.

As one team member after another fell, Karur's HP also decreased to 10%. Karur went berserk. His speed and Attack Power soared by 30%, and he now had a critical hit effect.

White Feather, unfortunately, received a critical hit. Even with Protection Blessing activated, he instantly lost over 1,400 HP. Moreover, when White Feather received this hit, he only had around 60% of his total HP remaining. Hence, he instantly died.

White Feather's death greatly increased the pressure on Water Lake. To make things worse, there were only 12 players left alive in the team, while Karur still had 4% of his HP remaining, almost 20,000 HP.

Helpless, Shi Feng could only choose to use one of his trump cards, the Flame Burst.

During the short two-second cast time, Karur had used Avatar Slash once more, instant-killing three more players. One of the three players killed was even a healer. This was truly a desperate situation.

Meanwhile, Karur still had 3% of his HP, which meant that he had around 13,000 HP remaining.

At this moment, the Abyssal Blade in Shi Feng's hand started glowing a dazzling white. The white glow surrounding the Abyssal Blade shone like a miniature sun; its presence alone raised the surrounding temperature by several folds.

Shi Feng activated Wind Blade and arrived behind Karur. Lightly jumping up, Shi Feng brandished the Abyssal Blade at Karur's back, instantly forming six sword images. The six sword images resembling the sun instantly devoured Karur, causing frightening damages of -2,153, -2,203, -2,178, -4,356, -2,206, -4,422 to appear above Karur's head.

Under this tremendous might, Karur's four-meter-tall body shot like a cannonball towards a steel wall.

Boom!

An indentation in the shape of Karur immediately formed on the steel wall. Meanwhile, Karur was thoroughly charred black, as void of life as a stone.

Chapter 213 - Dark Warlock Salou

“Karur is down... We won...”

“What was that skill? How could it be so frightening?”

The surviving members looked at the charred Karur, all involuntarily gulping a mouthful of saliva. The scene Shi Feng displayed before was simply unheard of. It was as if the thing he brandished was not a sword but a miniature sun. Even when standing at a distance of over 30 yards, they could feel the scorching temperature through the pain and burning of their skin.

Meanwhile, the damage Shi Feng had dealt was even more shocking. Of his six last strikes, not one had dealt lower than -2,000 damage to the High Chieftain ranked Boss. Among them, there were even two that achieved a critical hit, causing over -4,000 damage. It was the first time they had seen such a powerful skill.

Stabbing Heart jaw also hung open. Although he knew that Shi Feng was amazing, he never imagined that he would be this amazing.

Cruel Sword was also awestruck.

Originally, he had prepared for another failure. He never thought that Shi Feng would have a move like this hidden. Shi Feng had sent a Level 12 High Chieftain Boss flying and instantly caused more than - 10,000 damage. This was definitely the highest damage Cruel Sword had seen so far. At this moment, Cruel Sword's gaze grew even more fervent when he looked at Shi Feng. He couldn't help but wish that he could drag Shi Feng into the Assassin's Alliance right this instant.

Mu Qing reacted quickly. This moment was her best chance to get closer to Shi Feng. Hence, Mu Qing immediately walked up to Shi Feng's side, acting excited as she pulled on Shi Feng's arm.

"Big Brother Ye Feng, this move of yours is just too amazing! Just what sort of skill is it? This is my first time seeing such a skill!" Mu Qing eyed Shi Feng as she spoke in a soft and supple tone, her slender eyelashes constantly fluttering. Admiration filled her gaze, and her expression was fragile, invoking any man's protective instincts.

"Flame Burst. It's a Universal Special Skill that any class can use." Shi Feng could clearly feel a sense of warmth and softness on the arm she clung to. However, he did not put much thought into it. He deemed that Mu Qing had only done such a thing due to her excitement. Hence, he casually gave her the answer.

"A Special Skill, is it? How unfortunate. Originally, I thought of inviting Brother Ye Feng to help me grind for one..." Mu Qing's excitement withered when she heard Shi Feng's words. One could only come across something like a special skill serendipitously; it was not something that one could obtain through effort. Indeed, how could such a powerful skill be so easily obtained?

"Let's take a look at the drops, then," Shi Feng said with a laugh, looking at Mu Qing's disappointed expression.

Reminded by Shi Feng, everyone finally recalled the fact that Karur, who had just died, was a High Chieftain ranked Boss. The loot he dropped would doubtlessly be bountiful. They had forgotten this fact due to their shock at Shi Feng's strength.

Following which, the surviving healers started reviving their fallen allies. Only when everyone was revived did Cruel Sword begin to collect the loot.

Karur had dropped a total of five pieces of equipment, and all of them were Mysterious-Iron rank. Compared to the Boss of a 10-man Dungeon, Karur had dropped an extra two to three pieces of equipment. Among the five pieces of equipment, there was a Level 10 greatshield, a Level 10 longbow for Rangers, a Level 10 breastplate for Berserkers, a Level 10 staff for healers, and the last piece was a Level 10 breastplate for Swordsmen. The breastplates for Berserkers and Swordsmen in particular were pieces of Set Equipment. As for money, everyone in the team received 32 Coppers. In general, it was a great harvest.

As Shi Feng previously had an agreement with the Assassin's Alliance, the Wind Extinguisher Breastplate was given to him directly.

[Wind Extinguisher Breastplate] (Chest Piece, Plate Armor, Mysterious-Iron Rank)

Level 10

Defense +83

Strength +7, Agility +10, Endurance +6

Restricted to Swordsman.

Part of Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment (1/6)

Two-piece effect: Increase damage by 10%.

Four-piece effect: Increase Attack Speed and Movement Speed by 15%

Six-piece effect: Ignore Levels +3. When attacking, 15% chance to increase Attack Power by 50 points for 20 seconds.

Regarding Attributes or set effects, the Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment definitely possessed a qualitative increase compared to the Silvermoon Set Equipment. Shi Feng's best available option was to gather this whole set now and upgrade his equipment. However, it would not be an easy task.

After receiving the Wind Extinguisher Breastplate, Shi Feng was in no hurry to swap it out with his current breastplate. After all, once he made the change, he would lose one of the set effects of the Silvermoon Set Equipment. He only intended to make the change after he collected four pieces of the Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment.

After distributing the equipment, everyone advanced towards the next Boss.

Now that Water Lake possessed a Level 10 Mysterious-Iron ranked shield, his Defense and HP had both increased significantly. As a result, they easily dealt with the monsters they met on their journey. Within 10 minutes, they arrived at a fighting arena.

In the middle of the arena, Morlock, a Beastman Assassin, stood there. He was also the second Boss of the Beastman Munition Factory.

[Morlock] (High Chieftain Rank)

Level 12

HP 400,000/400,000

Although Morlock's HP was lower than Karur's, Morlock was, in reality, much harder to deal with than Karur. Unlike Karur, Morlock was an Assassin. During battle, Morlock would unpredictably disappear and reappear at another location. He would also frequently attack players while ignoring aggro, choosing to attack players on the rear line rather than those on the frontline. More importantly, Morlock had three skills that rendered players speechless.

The first skill he possessed was Armor Break. Every one of Morlock's attacks would inflict a stackable armor break effect. To any plate armor classes, this could be a fatal skill, as once the armor break effect reached 10 stacks, their Defense would essentially reduce to 0. Even if it were an MT that possessed over 2,000 HP, Morlock could still kill them with just two to three hits. Before the healers could replenish the MT's lost HP, the MT would have already succumbed to Morlock's stunning Attack Speed, dying helplessly.

The only fortunate aspect for players was that the armor break effect only had a short duration of 30 seconds. Players raiding Morlock only needed to swap out their MTs when the effect stacked up to five times.

Morlock's second skill was Killing Feast. When activated, Morlock would attack all enemies within an 8-yard radius a total of 16 times. Throughout the duration of this skill, Morlock would enter a state of

invulnerability. Moreover, Morlock would carry out these 16 attacks very quickly; he would finish all 16 attacks in just two seconds. If, when Morlock activated this skill, there were only the two MTs within range, these two MTs would die with a 100% guarantee. Thus, players needed to share the burden of this attack. This would also place an extreme pressure onto the healers.

Morlock's third skill was called Vanish. When activated, Morlock would randomly ambush a player. If the ambushed player were a cloth armor class, then, without question, that player would die. Only players that belonged to a plate armor class would have any hopes of surviving Morlock's ambush.

At this moment, everyone in the team looked towards Shi Feng, intending to obtain his opinion on how to deal with this second High Chieftain Boss. Contrary to their expectations, Shi Feng did not tell them any strategies to raid the Boss. Instead, he instructed one healer and two MTs to test the waters. Otherwise, he might have to explain how he obtained his strategy.

After making a few tests, Shi Feng started explaining his strategy for the initial stages of the Boss fight. In reality, the plan was very simple. All plate armor classes would become tanks during the early stages of the raid, taking turns tanking Morlock. After all, Morlock's damage was not particularly high. It would only become powerful after the armor break effect stacked so many times. So, as long as one belonged to a plate armor class, they could withstand Morlock's damage.

Naturally, it was the same when dealing with Morlock's Killing Feast.

In short, players only needed to surround and beat up this Boss.

After eight minutes passed, Morlock, the second Boss of the Beastman Munition Factory, fell. The main reason for Morlock's fall was because Shi Feng was simply too strong.

Shi Feng had practically tanked Morlock by himself. Shi Feng was extremely nimble when dodging Morlock's attacks, and Morlock could very rarely land an attack on him.

This, in turn, resulted in a decrease to Shi Feng's damage output.

With a stable tanker like Shi Feng, the healers enjoyed a rather easy time throughout this raid. They could spread their attention towards other members of the team, allowing everyone to have an easier time dealing with the Boss. Problems only arose when Morlock used Vanish and appeared behind a cloth armor class. These unfortunate players could only curse their own bad luck as they accepted their deaths.

Chapter 214 - Dungeon Cleared

After Morlock died, he dropped a total of four pieces of Mysterious-Iron Equipment. Everyone received a share of 34 Copper Coins and a large amount of EXP. Meanwhile, Shi Feng obtained a pair of Wind Extinguisher Leg Guards, increasing his collection of the Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment to two pieces.

Everyone on the team looked at each other with a smile after they had killed Morlock, a High Chieftain ranked Boss, with such ease. They all felt blissful from the fact that Shi Feng had joined their team.

Right now, no one on the team felt the same panic they had when they first entered the Dungeon. They could joke around with each other and had even become pals with Shi Feng. Occasionally, they would even ask Shi Feng to teach them a few battle techniques.

While Shi Feng gave out casual pointers, the team members' admiration for Shi Feng gradually grew.

Under Shi Feng's casual guidance, many players in the team exhibited noticeable improvement.

Soon after, everyone arrived at the final throne room. Here, they met the final Boss, the Dark Warlock Salou.

[Dark Warlock Salou] (High Chieftain Rank)

Level 12

HP 500,000/500,000

Elsewhere, while Shi Feng and the others had arrived before the final Boss, Dark Star's Lone Tyrant still tangled with the first Boss of the Beastman Munition Factory, Karur.

As of this moment, Lone Tyrant and his team had already experienced three team-wipes. Moreover, Karur's Avatar Slash had caused all three. They had not improved one little bit since their first battle.

Lone Tyrant grew hysterical at this situation. He did not know why a 20-man Dungeon would have such a huge increase in difficulty compared to a 10-man Dungeon.

After pondering for a long time, Lone Tyrant discovered the reason for their failures.

This Boss needs to be dealt with as quickly as possible. However, our overall damage simply isn't enough to finish him. Unless the team's equipment is further upgraded, the possibility of clearing this Dungeon doesn't exist. Do we really have to go and upgrade our equipment before trying again? Lone Tyrant wore a hesitant expression as he glared at Karur.

Due to his previous boasting, he was now stuck between a rock and a hard place. However, Lone Tyrant suddenly came to a realization. If the damage of his own team were insufficient to deal with Karur, then the Assassin's Alliance, who had poorer quality equipment, would have even less of a chance of killing Karur. At this moment, the team from the Assassin's Alliance must certainly be stuck at the first Boss as well. When Lone Tyrant thought about this, his mood immediately lifted. He decided to reflect on their raiding strategy, giving the Boss another try.

Meanwhile, in the magnificent throne room of the Beastman Munition Factory...

The Assassin's Alliance had already investigated the Dark Warlock Salou's skills.

Aside from Dark Arrow being Salou's most basic attack, Salou was immune to all controlling effects. Salou also possessed two killing moves. One of them was a skill called Shadow Wound. When cast, the Boss would fire 12 Dark Arrows. Each Dark Arrow would cause -800 damage and inflict a Fear effect that lasted 6 seconds.

The other was a skill called Summon Flame Giant. The Flame Giant was a Level 12 Special Elite with 50,000 HP. Each Flame Giant that Salou summoned possessed Self-immolation effect that dealt -300 flame damage to all targets within a 10-yard range every second.

The Flame Giant was also the largest hurdle to overcome when raiding the Dark Warlock Salou, as the self-immolation was an AoE DoT[1]. If any players other than MTs received -300 flame damage every second, they would last four to five seconds at most. Meanwhile, Salou would summon an additional Flame Giant every one to two minutes. Factoring in the fear effect from Shadow Wound, many players in the team would die under the combination of these two skills.

Even if this combination did not immediately kill them, with three Flame Giants running about, they would similarly end in destruction. Three Flame Giants would mean -900 total damage per second. Even Shi Feng could not last 3 seconds under this damage, much less the other players in the team.

However, if they focused their attacks on the Flame Giants summoned instead, they would waste precious time. As a result, Salou would fully recover his HP due to his battle recovery. A battle of attrition like this would only end with the healers exhausting their mana and a team-wipe.

Meanwhile, after sending a group of half a dozen players to test the waters, everyone learned Dark Warlock Salou's true strength. As a result, their hearts sunk, and their confidence wavered.

Ignoring the fact that each of Salou's Dark Arrows could cause -800 damage to their MTs and -1,000 damage to everyone else, the Flame Giants alone were extremely difficult to deal with. After all, none of the melee players could go near a Flame Giant, and even if only the MTs tanked it, the healers still wouldn't be able to cope with the high damage. Not to mention, there was also Salou's AoE skill, Shadow Wound, that would suddenly cause -800 damage.

The Flame Giant itself could cause over -300 damage to the MT with its attacks. Coupling that with the Flame Giant's self-immolation effect, its prowess could rival that of a Boss. If they suddenly received an attack from Salou's Shadow Wound in addition to the Flame Giant's attacks, even their MTs might instantly die. Moreover, if they did not kill the first Flame Giant within one to two minutes of its summoning, Salou would summon the second Flame Giant. Under the simultaneous attacks of two Flame Giants, their MTs wouldn't have a chance.

With their current equipment and levels, it was impossible for them to face Dark Warlock Salou head-on in battle.

Thinking up to this point, everyone's moods grew somber.

"Isn't this only Hard Mode? Why is the difficulty so high? What would happen if this were Hell Mode?" Stabbing Heart was similarly bitter after seeing Dark Warlock Salou's capabilities.

The Guild Leader of the Assassin's Alliance, Cruel Sword, wrinkled his brows, falling into deep thought.

Salou's raiding difficulty was clearly much higher than the previous two Bosses. As expected of a final Boss, it won't be easy to clear this hurdle. At the very least, Cruel Sword did not have any good methods to raid Salou.

While everyone was discouraged...

"Why don't we give it a try first? It's not like we're completely helpless right now," Shi Feng suddenly said in the team chat.

Shi Feng's words were like a ray of hope.

"Brother Ye Feng, can we really raid this Boss?" Mu Qing blinked her mesmerizing eyes, her delicate body sticking close to Shi Feng as she asked.

"It should be possible. We can only find out if we try it, right?" Shi Feng merely shrugged as he spoke, his calm appearance giving Mu Qing a slight surprise.

Following which, Shi Feng gave a brief overview of his raiding plan.

Shi Feng's plan was simple. He, alone, would kite the summoned Flame Giants, while the other members of the team would focus their attacks on the Boss. In this situation, three of the four healers on the team would be responsible for healing the MTs, while the last healer would be responsible for keeping Shi Feng alive. However, this plan was very risky. Its success relied heavily on Shi Feng's ability to kite the Flame Giants. As the throne room did not provide a wide area for movement, Shi Feng needed to be mindful of his positioning. Any mistakes could lead to a team-wipe.

However, nobody rejected Shi Feng's proposal. They did not even have the slightest opinion about Shi Feng's plan. They had long since been convinced of Shi Feng's strength. Since Shi Feng shared his plan, he must be very confident about it. Thus, they believed that Shi Feng could really pull it off.

"Water Lake, you'll activate Darkness Aura. White Feather, you'll activate Crusader Aura. Let's start the raid, then," Shi Feng said.

A Guardian Knight's Darkness Aura could provide an additional 5 points Dark Resistance to allies, decreasing the darkness damage they received. Meanwhile, the Crusader Aura could increase allies' Movement Speed by 10%, letting everyone have an easier time evading the Flame Giants. With these two auras, the team would have a much easier time raiding the Boss.

Water Lake was the first to dash at Salou. While Salou was still in the process of casting a spell, Water Lake smashed Shield of Vengeance into Salou's face, causing -181 damage. Water Lake then followed up with Righteous Punishment, dealing -201 damage.

However, neither of these attacks had interrupted or delayed Salou's chanting, and shortly after, a streak of dark light skewered Water Lake through the chest, causing -800 damage to him. A moment later, three Healing Lights landed on Water Lake's body, recovering over 700 HP of his HP.

After Water Lake solidified his grasp on Salou's aggro, Shi Feng instructed the other players to initiate their attacks.

After a moment, Salou pointed his staff towards the sky. A large, azure-green fireball descended from the sky, crashing into the throne room. Immediately, Shi Feng tossed out the Blazing Meteor at the azure-green Flame Giant, causing -621 damage and instantly becoming its main target.

Seeing the Flame Giant charging at him, Shi Feng spun around and fled, luring the Flame Giant away from the rest of the team. He then started circling around the hall with the Flame Giant right behind him.

As Salou's HP continued decreasing, the Flame Giants he summoned also grew stronger. Unfortunately, Shi Feng lured away all of the Flame Giants Salou summoned, spoiling his fun.

After more than ten minutes, Salou released a resentful bellow. His body fell to the throne as he passed away.

TL Notes:

[1]DoT: Damage-over-Time.

From beginning to end, Shi Feng had lured a total of nine Flame Giants, kiting them around the throne room.

Due to his actions, the Flame Giants had not been able to showcase their prowess even once in this entire battle. As a result, the Dark Warlock Salou became very easy to deal with, breathing his last under everyone's heavy bombardment.

Even an amazing Boss could not compete against a reincarnated player. Their only fate was to be a plaything... unto death.

Seeing Salou fall, everyone jumped in celebration.

The Beastman Munition Factory belonged to the category of Expedition Dungeons. Unlike the Dark Moon Graveyard, which was a Survival Dungeon, players only needed to kill the final Boss in an expedition Dungeon to clear it; there was no need to leave the Dungeon for the clear to be official.

At this moment, the White River City Region System Announcement had already appeared.

White River City Region System Announcement: Congratulations to Assassin's Alliance for becoming the first team to conquer the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory. All players within the team will be rewarded with 50,000 EXP and 1 Silver Coin.

White River City Region System Announcement: Congratulations to Assassin's Alliance for becoming the fastest team to conquer the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory. All players within the team will be rewarded with 50,000 EXP and one Tier 1 Gemstone of random Attribute.

As it was not the First Clear of Hell Mode, the Main God System would not be so generous as to reward them with reputation points. Normally, players would only receive EXP for obtaining the First Clear of Hard Mode.

Also, the race for Team Dungeons was categorized into two types: Hard Mode and Hell Mode. Normal Mode was not taken into consideration as no time challenge existed.

Normally, the Main God System would implement a clear time for Team Dungeons. The clear time set by the system depended on the type of Team Dungeon and its difficulty. Meanwhile, the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory's clear time was set at three hours. The Main God System would usually set the clear time at a very high bar. Only if players had achieved the standard of an elite team, determined by the Main God System, would they have a chance to clear the Dungeon in this set amount of time.

Meanwhile, under Shi Feng's command, the Assassin's Alliance had only spent 2 hours and 22 minutes to clear the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory, surpassing the estimated time. This proved that the team's strength was already above the standards of a normal elite team.

However, everyone on the team knew full well that this achievement was all due to Shi Feng's contributions.

After a round of mad celebration, everyone finally welcomed the most exciting moment.

They began examining the item drops of the Dark Warlock Salou, the final Boss monster of the Beastman Munition Factory.

Compared to the previous two Bosses, the loot from Salou was far more bountiful. Salou had dropped a total of seven items. Among them, five were Level 10 Mysterious-Iron ranked helmets, each being a part of a Set Equipment for different classes. With great luck, Salou even dropped a Basic Fire Resistance Potion Recipe. As for the final item, it was a Secret-Silver Staff meant for Elementalists.

[Elemental Scepter] (Staff, Secret-Silver Rank)

Level 10

Intelligence +15, Strength +4, Agility +4, Endurance +10

Increases elemental damage by 5%

Increases casting speed by 10%

Durability 80/80

With just a glance, one could immediately tell that this was a top-tier staff meant for Elementalists.

When the mages in the team looked at the details of this staff, drool nearly leaked from their mouths.

Although these mages had quite a few pieces of Mysterious-Iron Equipment on their persons, their weapons and equipment were all below Level 10. They were clearly much weaker compared to Level 10 weapons and equipment, not to mention a Secret-Silver ranked staff.

Cruel Sword immediately handed the Elemental Staff to Mu Qing. However, nobody in the team expressed any dissatisfaction about Cruel Sword's decision because Mu Qing's strength was indeed very powerful. Moreover, her damage was ranked number one amongst all the mages present. Following which, Cruel Sword handed the Wind Extinguisher Helmet, Wind Extinguisher Armguard, and Basic Fire Resistance Potion Recipe to Shi Feng. Similarly, nobody in the team had any gripes about this decision. If it weren't for Shi Feng, they would not have cleared this Dungeon in the first place.

With this, Shi Feng now had four pieces of the Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment. Although he did not possess all six pieces, they were sufficient for him to replace the Bronze ranked Silvermoon Set Equipment.

"Brother Ye Feng, you've helped us out so much, yet, you're only taking so few items. I am truly embarrassed about this, so please let me pay you another 100,000 Credits as compensation. Otherwise, if the other Guilds discover this matter, they will definitely make mock us for being insincere!" Cruel Sword said with a laugh as he looked at Shi Feng.

Putting aside the advertising benefits brought about from obtaining the First Clear of the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory, just the equipment they obtained was already of considerable value. It was especially true for the Secret-Silver ranked Elemental Scepter. The value of this staff alone could compare to half a dozen pieces of Level 10 Mysterious-Iron Equipment. Hence, spending an additional 100,000 Credits to compensate Shi Feng was a minor matter.

To put it another way, the Assassin's Alliance had made a huge profit from this deal. After all, the First Clear of a 20-man Hard Mode Team Dungeon held extraordinary significance, as up until this moment, any Guild had yet to obtain the First Clear of a 20-man Hard Mode Team Dungeon.

Obtaining the First Clear of the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory had undeniably allowed the Assassin's Alliance to break free from their awkward position in White River City. They no longer had to suffer the suppression from Dark Star.

Of course, by giving Shi Feng 100,000 Credits, Cruel Sword also had the intention of deepening the relationship between Shi Feng and the Assassin's Alliance. Cruel Sword still wished to recruit Shi Feng into the Guild.

Shi Feng could easily see through Cruel Sword's intentions. However, he merely smiled in reply, receiving all that Cruel Sword offered without hesitation.

Cruel Sword had no idea that Shi Feng did not really care about this equipment. Even if it were the Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment, it was simply a temporary set of equipment for Shi Feng. Meanwhile, amongst these items, the one Shi Feng paid the most attention to was the Basic Fire Resistance Potion Recipe.

[Basic Fire Resistance Potion]

After consumption, increases Fire Resistance by 15 points for 1 hour.

Currently, this item had no market value. However, when the various large Guilds started raiding the Level 25 Flame Nest, the value of this Basic Fire Resistance Potion Recipe would soar beyond one's imagination. It's worth would not be less than a piece of Fine-Gold Equipment.

Players were not allowed to use the Flaming Sun Scripture when in a Dungeon. Meanwhile, equipment that increased a player's Fire Resistance was extremely rare. The quickest way to increase one's Fire Resistance was through the use of a Basic Fire Resistance Potion. If players did not possess this potion, raiding the Flame Nest would only be possible in their dreams.

If Shi Feng started looking for a Potionmaker to craft the Basic Fire Resistance Potion now, he would carve out an additional path to wealth for the future. Even ten pieces of Secret-Silver Equipment could not rival what he could earn with these potions.

“Brother Ye Feng, are you free tomorrow?” At this moment, Mu Qing walked over to Shi Feng after receiving a silent hint from Cruel Sword. Sweetly, she said, “My party is planning to raid the Old Ruins, a high-level 10-man Team Dungeon, tomorrow. However, one of the original party members had applied for leave due to some personal matters. I’d really love it if you would join me. Will you??”

After a Team Dungeon was cleared, it would have a Cooldown period of three days. Hence, they needed to wait for three days before they could enter the Beastman Munition Factory again.

Standing to the side, Cruel Sword inwardly clapped his hands at Mu Qing’s performance.

Relationships needed care and gentle nurturing. Although he could tell that Shi Feng had no particular interest in Mu Qing, with increased interactions, who was to say would happen in the future?

“I still have something that I need to do tomorrow. Let’s find some other time to go Dungeon diving.”

Shi Feng could naturally tell what Mu Qing was trying to do. However, he simply waved his hand and tactfully rejected her. Although the Old Ruins was a high-level Team Dungeon, there was nothing there that could rouse his interests. He would only waste time by going there. Now that he had changed into the four pieces of Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment, his Attributes had greatly increased once again. He should be able to attempt the continuation of the Epic Quest, Darkness Descends, now.

Mu Qing’s innocent eyes flashed with a hint of disappointment. She did not think that her charm, which had only brought her success so far, would fail against Shi Feng.

Was she really lacking in charm, or were Shi Feng's defenses just too high?

Chapter 216 - Surpassing Imagination

Beastman Munition Factory.

"Boss, we've already team-wiped four times now and have lost 20% of our experience. If we are to continue to die, at this rate, we might not even be a high enough level to enter the Dungeon's entrance. Why don't we give up?"

"Alright, then. Everyone, get some rest. Afterwards, we'll head to a 10-man Dungeon to upgrade our equipment."

Lone Tyrant currently wore a gloomy expression on his face. They had tried all sorts of methods to raid the High Chieftain ranked Boss, Karur, yet, ultimately, they still failed due to a lack of damage. Before, he had even made a solemn vow to kill Karur. Now that he thought about it, he felt that his decision had been slightly rash. Fortunately, the players from the Assassin's Alliance had absolutely no chances of clearing the Dungeon. Otherwise, he would be utterly humiliated.

Just as the members of Dark Star were resting...

Suddenly, two system notifications relating to the Assassin's Alliance rang out beside everyone's ears.

In the beginning, the members of Dark Star thought that they had heard wrong. Hence, they quickly called up the announcement interface. The extraordinarily large and clear words proved them wrong. The Assassin's Alliance had indeed obtained the First Clear of the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory.

Immediately, the atmosphere surrounding the members of Dark Star sunk.

Why was there such a large difference between their two teams? Weren't they supposed to be stronger than the Assassin's Alliance?

How could the Assassin's Alliance have already obtained the First Clear, while they were still stuck at the first Boss?

Lone Tyrant felt like he had just been given two tight slaps to his face when he looked at these notifications; his cheeks felt as if they were on fire.

He felt even worse when he recalled Shi Feng's words from before.

If the nobodies that you've looked down on suddenly obtain the First Clear of the Hard Mode Beast Munition Factory a step ahead of you, then what would you all amount to?

At this moment, those words were like sharp swords, continuously slashing at Lone Tyrant's pride.

Lone Tyrant truly never imagined that such a situation would occur.

However, Lone Tyrant was no fool. He did not believe the Assassin's Alliance had relied on only themselves to clear the Dungeon. The only possible way they could do so was with Shi Feng's help.

Just where did this mysterious person come from?

In reality, Dark Star wasn't the only one to have been shocked by this piece of news. When the announcement spread throughout the entire White River City region, it had grabbed the attention of many other Guilds.

The Assassin's Alliance's position in White River City was self-evident from the fact that their development speed had surpassed even that of a first-rate Guild. However, Dark Star's fame had recently suppressed Assassin's Alliance, adding to the fact that they had not produced any significant results from the Team Dungeons, their status in White River City had become slightly awkward.

Now that they had obtained the First Clear of the Beastman Munition Factory, their fame instantly soared. This allowed the Assassin's Alliance to regain their rightful reputation. From now on, their development speed would definitely be faster than before.

White River City's Adventurer's Association.

"Brother Zhang! Brother Zhang! The Assassin's Alliance has obtained the First Clear of the Hard Mode Beastman Munition Factory!" Ling Feilong suddenly rushed into Shadow's Guild Hall, announcing the news with a face filled with excitement.

In God's Domain, as long as Guilds registered themselves at the Adventurer's Association, they would be provided a free lounge for their own personal use in the various large cities. Guilds could carry out meetings and rest in this room, and they could also receive quests from the Adventurer's Association.

"Why are you shouting? Who doesn't know of this matter?" Zhou Yuhu, who was resting in the corner of the room, rolled his eyes at Ling Feilong.

"Of course, I know of this. However, there is another hidden truth to this matter." Ling Feilong shot a glance at Zhou Yuhu, before shifting his gaze towards the person sitting in the Guild Leader's seat, Zhang Luowei.

A hidden truth?

"Speak." Ling Feilong's words caused Zhang Luowei, who had previously been indifferent towards this matter, to grow interested.

Ling Feilong's previous report about his efforts to recruit Ye Feng had nearly caused Zhang Luowei to lash out in anger.

Shi Feng had actually demanded to become the Guild Leader of Shadow. Did Ye Feng even place him in his eyes?

Moreover, he had asked for 60% of the Guild's shares. What did he take them for?

Did he really think they were fools?

Meanwhile, the most shocking thing was that Ling Feilong had actually suggested that Zhang Luowei accept Shi Feng's conditions.

Hence, Zhang Luowei now looked down on Ling Feilong, resulting in Ling Feilong receiving cold treatment within the Guild.

"Brother Zhang, look at the Assassin's Alliance's First Clear name list! Ye Feng is among the names!" Ling Feilong called out his system interface, pointing at the Assassin's Alliance's First Clear name list as he spoke excitedly.

"So?" Zhou Yuhu laughed disdainfully. If they really allowed Ye Feng to join Shadow, he would no longer need to remain in the Guild.

"The Assassin's Alliance is a through and through second-rate Guild. They were clearly on an expedition to clear the Beastman Munition Factory, yet, why would they suddenly let an outsider join their team? Previously, for a long time, the Assassin's Alliance could not even obtain a single First Clear of a Level 10 Team Dungeon. However, they are now the first ones to obtain the First Clear of a 20-man Hard Mode Team Dungeon. Why is that?"

"This matter definitely has something to do with Ye Feng. Ye Feng's relationship with the Assassin's Alliance is anything but shallow. Originally, the Assassin's Alliance was only a normal second-rate Guild. However, after entering White River City, their development speed suddenly soared like crazy. They have even surpassed many first-rate Guilds. Again, why?"

"Ye Feng was the first person to enter White River City, and the White River City Guidebook is also selling like hotcakes now. There is a very high likelihood that Ye Feng sold the guidebook to the Assassin's Alliance in advance, allowing them to make ample preparations beforehand. Hence, after they entered White River City, they developed with flying speeds."

“Right now, Ye Feng has even helped the Assassin’s Alliance obtain a First Clear. Regarding fame or background, the Assassin’s Alliance now stands at the very top of White River City; they have even surpassed many first-rate Guilds. This is a clear proof of Ye Feng’s capabilities. If Ye Feng joins Shadow, within a month, we can stand our own ground in White River City.”

Ling Feilong had made a thorough investigation of Ye Feng, and the more information he uncovered about Ye Feng, the more frightened he became. Ye Feng’s accomplishments far surpassed his imagination. This was also the reason Ling Feilong became even more determined to hug a golden leg like Shi Feng.

At that time, what would Zhang Luowei amount to?

What would Lan Hailong amount to?

“Don’t even think about it! In the future, if you ever dare to mention Ye Feng’s name to me again or tell Lan Hailong about this matter, you better be prepared for the consequences!” Zhang Luowei’s countenance suddenly turned livid. With a tone filled with killing intent, he said, “Ye Feng is just a clown, jumping about on the stage. The Assassin’s Alliance is an apex second-rate Guild with an immense background. Their Guild Leader, Cruel Sword, is even a long-established expert. He has personally nurtured the Assassin’s Alliance to its current status, so it is not unusual for him to produce such results. To begin with, what sort of impact could that Ye Feng even have?”

“In my opinion, that Ye Feng would, at best, take on the role of a bystander.”

Being reprimanded by Zhang Luowei in such a way, Ling Feilong immediately revealed a fearful expression. Hurriedly nodding his head, he said, “Yes, I understand, Brother Zhang. I definitely won’t mention this again in the future.”

Inwardly, however, Ling Feilong smiled brightly.

He was even more assured of Ye Feng's might now. After all, if Zhang Luowei did not feel greatly threatened by Ye Feng, why would he be so angry at the mention this expert?

In fact, Ling Feilong had long since told Lan Hailong about this matter, and Lan Hailong had instructed him to contact Shi Feng secretly once more.

Once he attained certain achievements in God's Domain, would he still be afraid of not being able to earn money?

With wealth, would he still need to be afraid that Zhao Ruoxi wouldn't welcome his embrace of her own volition? Her family might very well obediently hand her over to him.

Just as everyone discussed the Assassin's Alliance's First Clear, Shi Feng had already swapped out his old equipment for the four pieces of the Wind Extinguisher Set Equipment and had arrived at the Library of White River City.

Compared to the dilapidated house used as a Library in Red Leaf Town, the Library at White River City was a true library. Not only did it possess a majestic atmosphere, but its appearance was also splendid and magnificent. It was like a Babylonian shrine, and it was situated right in the heart of the city.

The people going through the entrance of the Library were mostly nobles of White River City and mage-class NPCs. There were even some who possessed Tier 2 classes. Hence, the Library was not a place where the common folk could simply visit.

Meanwhile, Sharlyn, the Tier 3 Divine Official whom Shi Feng searched for, currently recuperated within this wealth of knowledge.

Chapter 217 - Thoughtful Rain

At the entrance of White River City's majestic Library...

Aside from a large number of NPCs entering and leaving the premises, there were also plenty of players surrounding the Library's entrance. However, no matter how hard they tried, they still could not enter the Library. Hence, a majority of these players were currently trying to befriend some of the NPCs here, increasing their intimacy in the hopes of these NPCs taking them along into the Library.

There were even some attractive female players that tried to seduce the NPC nobles.

Meanwhile, the players that attempted these actions were mostly mages such as Elementalists, Curse-mancers, and Summoners.

As for why these players tried to get into the Library?

It was mainly because of the amazing skills they could learn within the Library. Aside from obtaining these skills from monsters and Dungeons, the Library also possessed some of the more common, high-level mage skills. As for healers, they would have to visit the Light Temple to learn their respective skills. Meanwhile, all melee classes could learn new skills from their respective class instructors in the Apocalypse Temple.

These players had read about the Library in the White River City Guidebook by Shi Feng. Hence, they had all come here to obtain new skills. After all, compared to upgrading their weapons and equipment, it was much easier to upgrade their arsenal of skills.

As long as players could learn some of these high-level skills, their overall prowess would massively improve. However, learning a skill was very expensive. Players also needed to do a series of quests and waste precious time to obtain a skill. Hence, Shi Feng never thought of obtaining his skills through such means. After all, the skills he had learned so far were not any weaker than those high-level class-specific skills. So, he naturally would not waste time trying to obtain them.

Seeing Shi Feng walking towards the Library's entrance, the spectating players by the sidelines revealed sneers on their faces.

"Look, another new guy is trying to enter."

"How many players has that been already?"

"Let's watch the guard kick him out."

Most of these players had suffered a loss at the hands of the gatekeeper. As none of them possessed an entry pass, the guards had chased them all away. There were also some players who tried to cause a scene after being refused entry. However, these players were either jailed or sent flying away with a kick.

Just as Shi Feng was about to walk towards the tightly shut large steel doors, a female Elementalist pulled on Shi Feng, stopping him.

“The guards here will kick out any player without an entry pass. It is best if you do not try to approach them,” the female player warned Shi Feng.

Shi Feng already knew this. However, since the other party had approached him with kind intentions, Shi Feng turned his head and looked at the female player that had stopped him.

Immediately, Shi Feng discovered that the female player who stopped him was very beautiful. Amongst all the female Elementalists he knew, only the Flame Witch, Zhao Yueru, might trump this girl’s beauty. Moreover, the equipment on this girl fully comprised of Mysterious-Iron Equipment. Although her weapons and equipment were all below Level 10, they were still extremely valuable. As the girl before him was an independent player, it was much more difficult for her to obtain such equipment compared to a member of a Guild.

However, for some unknown reason, Shi Feng felt a sense of familiarity when he looked at this female player. Yet, he could not recall when he had met her before. He then used Observing Eyes and took a look at this girl’s name.

Thoughtful Rain.

Shi Feng had no recollection of this ID, and he was very sure that there was no female expert in his previous life with such a name. Since she was not a female expert, why did he feel a sense of familiarity with her?

Shi Feng shook his head. There was no point thinking about it if he couldn’t remember. It might just be a misconception due to his reincarnation.

“Thanks,” Shi Feng said.

Thoughtful Rain faintly smiled. She thought that, since Shi Feng had shown his appreciation, he must have a kind personality, unlike others who would reply to goodwill with malice. Hence, she pointed towards the group of players a short distance away that was currently surrounding a few NPC nobles, softly saying, “En, your attitude isn’t so bad after all. If you wish to enter the Library, it is best if you obtain an entry pass first. You can also try to befriend one of those NPC nobles. They possess some entry passes.”

“Miss Rain, are you trying to enter the Library as well?” Shi Feng asked.

“En, but those NPC nobles are simply too vile. So, I was just about to leave in search of an entry pass somewhere else.” Thoughtful Rain nodded her head. However, when she recalled those fat and oily NPC nobles, an expression of disgust appeared on her face.

“Since that is the case, why don’t you enter the Library with me?” Shi Feng asked. He had no ulterior motives in inviting her along. He was simply trying to repay Thoughtful Rain’s kind reminder.

“Enter?” Thoughtful Rain asked in confusion, “Do you have an entry pass?”

“No.” Shi Feng shook his head. He then smiled as he explained, “However, I have other methods.”

“It shouldn’t be possible, right? The guards here will only allow those with an entry pass or those related to the Library to enter,” Thoughtful Rain revealed an unconvinced expression as if saying, “You’re tricking me.”

Shi Feng merely smiled at her reaction, not bothering to explain. He then walked towards the large metal doors. Before Thoughtful Rain could stop Shi Feng, the guard on duty had already noticed him.

The spectating players in the distance all started snickering at the thought of the misfortunate about to befall on Shi Feng.

“This noob is trying too hard to impress the beauty he just met. I want to watch the guard put him in his place.”

“With his figure, I’m guessing that the guard will send him flying over 10 yards. If he continues making a ruckus, the guard might even capture him and hang him by the Library’s entrance for display.”

“That isn’t right. The guard kicked that last Berserker over 10 yards. I bet that he will fly 15 yards away!”

Just as everyone wore mocking smiles, the guard moved forward and blocked Shi Feng’s path.

“Halt!” the powerful and mighty guard at the entrance suddenly blocked Shi Feng with his spear. He then coldly said, “You will need to present your pass if you wish to enter the Library.”

“I’m a Demon Hunter. Will that do?” Shi Feng swapped out his Might of a Thousand title for the Demon Hunter title, asking.

“So, it is Lord Demon Hunter! Please pardon my rudeness!” The gatekeeper immediately retracted his spear, showing Shi Feng extreme respect.

This situation immediately stunned the spectating players standing at a side. Their mouths gaped as the scene left them speechless.

Even after they tried countless methods to obtain an entry pass from the NPC nobles, they still failed. Yet, the noob before them had actually made the gatekeeper kneel before him in respect just by uttering a single sentence.

Could this be the rumored secret signal? Or was it the entry password?

Shi Feng nodded towards the guard. He then pointed at Thoughtful Rain, saying, "She is a friend of mine. However, she does not possess an entry pass. I wonder if she can enter with me? I can be her guarantor."

"Of course! Since she is a friend of the Lord Demon Hunter, she is naturally allowed to enter!" The guard took a look at Thoughtful Rain, immediately noticing that she was an exquisite beauty. He then returned his gaze to Shi Feng, an understanding look on his face as he hurriedly said, "In addition, here is a Library Member's Emblem. This will allow Lord Demon Hunter's friend to enter the Library freely in the future."

Saying so, the guard respectfully passed the Library Member's Emblem to Shi Feng.

Shi Feng was slightly stunned. God's Domain had only undergone one evolution as of this moment. He never thought that these NPC guards would be so intelligent already.

Though he felt slightly shocked, he had no hesitation when accepting the Library Member's Emblem from the guard. An entry pass could only provide a single entry into the Library for players. However, one could not complete the process of learning a new skill with a single trip. Meanwhile, there was no limit to the number of uses for the Library Member's Emblem; players could enter the Library without

any restrictions if they possessed this emblem. Originally, obtaining the Library Member's Emblem for a friend was a special right reserved for nobles in White River City. Shi Feng did not think that even a Demon Hunter would have such rights.

"Miss Rain, please hold onto this Library member's emblem properly. In the future, you simply need to wear it on your person, and none of these guards will bar you from the Library," Shi Feng said, handing the emblem to Thoughtful Rain, who was currently still in a daze.

Following which, the two of them entered the Library under everyone's stunned gazes.

Some of the players were immediately dumbfounded. A few female players also revealed their envy as they watched Thoughtful Rain.

At this moment, the players who had previously mocked Shi Feng ran up to the Library's entrance.

"Halt!" The gatekeeper blocked all the players, coldly saying, "You will need to present your pass if you wish to enter the Library."

"I'm a Demon Hunter. Will that do?" these players repeated Shi Feng's words, inwardly praising themselves for their clever minds.

"How brave! You actually dare to impersonate the Lord Demon Hunter?!" When the guard swept a glance over these players, he failed to discover any of them in possession of the Demon Hunter title. Immediately, the guard flared with anger.

In the end, all these 'smart people' ended up in tragedy...

Chapter 218 - Starstreak Trading Firm

After Shi Feng and Thoughtful Rain entered the Library...

Thoughtful Rain's eyes flashed with a hint of shock when she saw the spectacular scene inside the Library.

The interior of the Library was like something from a fantasy world. Countless documents and materials were displayed all around the Library, and a massive, transparent crystal globe occupied the center. This crystal globe was like a supercomputer; one could search for any information available pertaining to the Star-Moon Kingdom.

Meanwhile, numerous open-air meditation rooms made of Magic Crystals decorated the surroundings of the crystal globe. Inside these meditation rooms, players could either research new spells or practice using their current spells.

Normally, only Tier 3 and above mage classes would research new spells. The players at this stage of the game had yet to possess a deep understanding of magic, so researching new spells was out of the question for them. Moreover, the spells that players currently used were only entry-level spells. However, along with the increase in their levels, the spells they used would also grow more complex. If they did not possess a specific degree of understanding of magic, they could stop dreaming of casting any high-tier spells.

As a result, many mages in God's Domain had given up on their adventuring career, switching to a Lifestyle class instead.

In fact, magic wasn't the only thing that had stringent requirements for players. It was the same for battle techniques. The more powerful a battle technique was, the higher its requirement would be of a player's control over their body. As a result, this requirement had created a gap in strength between the players of God's Domain. It was one of the reasons that some players could advance to a Tier 5 class, while some failed even to reach Tier 3.

Although it would be of some help if players increased their Levels and Attributes, such factors would make little difference the further players advanced in God's Domain.

This was also the reason why God Tier powerhouses were so rare.

Thus, Shi Feng continuously trained his body day in and day out, in addition to spending a large number of Credits to purchase nutrient fluids to improve his body's physique. It was all meant to improve his brain's potential and performance. Only by developing his brain's potential could he master his body in the game and obtain extraordinary battle prowess. He could then advance to a Tier 5 class and take the challenge to advance to the Tier 6 godhood, reaching the pinnacle of God's Domain.

"Let's part ways here; I still need to look for someone. If you want to learn high-level skills, the Tier 2 instructor over there can help you," Shi Feng pointed towards a mage in white robes standing by the large crystal globe.

"Thank you," Thoughtful Rain appeared slightly embarrassed as she expressed her gratitude. Originally, she had intended to help Shi Feng. Never would she have imagined that she would be the one who received help instead. She then said, "Seeing as you are so familiar with this place, are you perhaps a professional player?"

"I guess you can put it that way," Shi Feng nodded.

“Let’s add each other as friends, then. I don’t normally play games, so I usually buy my game equipment from others. In the future, if I am looking to purchase equipment or do a quest, I can also look to you for some help.” Thoughtful Rain beamed a smile as she sent Shi Feng a friend request.

“That’s fine, but if you need help with a quest, it would be best if you contact me about it in advance,” Shi Feng accepted the friend request.

He did not think that, by coming here to do a quest, he would actually meet a potential female customer.

When his Workshop started its operations in the future, aside from raiding Dungeons to obtain equipment, they would also need to look for tycoons and various corporations for sponsorship. However, it was extremely difficult for an upstart Workshop to obtain sponsorship from a large corporation. Newly established Workshops usually depended on rich players who were willing to spend large sums of money. Only after becoming a large Guild would a Workshop attract the sponsorship of large Corporations.

Although Shi Feng’s Workshop had yet to start its operation officially, there was already one customer waiting at the front door. His luck was relatively good.

After Shi Feng left, Thoughtful Rain inspected Shi Feng’s ID.

“Oh? He is Ye Feng, White River City’s number one expert?”

As Shi Feng had kept his ID hidden, it was only revealed after Shi Feng accepted her friend request.

Although Thoughtful Rain was not a gaming expert, having a poor understanding of the gaming world, Shi Feng's fame had long since shaken the White River City region. He had also received many titles such as White River City's number one independent player, god-ranked expert, and so on.

Furthermore, Shi Feng had also personally penned the luxury version of the White River City Guidebook she had bought. So, how could she not know who Shi Feng was?

"No wonder why I thought he looked familiar. It turns out that he is Ye Feng. This looks interesting." Thoughtful Rain's bright red lips slightly lifted upwards as she lost herself in her own thoughts.

On the Library's uppermost floor, Star-Moon Hall...

Several Level 180 Tier 1 Knights stood guard outside of Star-Moon Hall. These Knights wore rigid expressions. Under normal circumstances, even normal nobles were not allowed into the Star-Moon Hall. However, these Knights did not stop Shi Feng this time.

On the contrary, they immediately parted the crystal doors for Shi Feng upon his arrival.

"I've been bitterly waiting for you for so long; why have you only decided to come now?" Sharlyn asked, smiling sweetly from her seat next to a shiny, stone table. The woman currently wore a set of pure white, magical robes. The delicate and luxurious robes radiated a faint silvery glow, making Sharlyn appear as though she were a flawless noble saint. She crossed one thigh over the other, revealing fair, supple skin. It was almost as if Sharlyn was trying to toy with Shi Feng.

At this moment, Sharlyn was no longer a Level 20 Tier 3 Divine Official, but a Level 180 Tier 3 Divine Official. Aside from the few Tier 4 tyrants, Sharlyn could very well be considered the most powerful person in White River City.

“Why are you standing there, daydreaming? Come over here and sit! We have plenty of time to have a lengthy chat.” Sharlyn smiled faintly as she pointed towards the empty seat beside her.

Shi Feng instinctively shuddered when he faced a golddigger like Sharlyn. He felt as if he were being stared at by a nine-tailed fox, his wallet no longer safe.

However, to obtain the clue for the Epic Quest, Shi Feng had no choice but to advance, taking a seat beside Sharlyn.

Shi Feng took out 10 Gold Coins, placing them on the table. He then asked in a soft tone, “Esteemed Lady Sharlyn, I’ve brought the 10 Gold Coins you requested. I wonder if you can tell me the location of the Bible of Darkness now?”

Sharlyn made a slight waving motion and the Gold Coins on the stone table immediately flew to her lily-white hand. Giggling, she played with the shiny Coins in her hand.

“I didn’t think that your moneymaking speed would be so fast. This big sister has truly underestimated you.” After storing the Gold Coins, Sharlyn unhurriedly said, “However, I now have a new piece of information. I wonder if you would be interested in hearing it? Moreover, this information is extremely accurate. It will definitely help you in locating the Bible of Darkness.”

Shi Feng’s lips involuntarily twitched at Sharlyn’s words.

She was going ask for more money!

“Say it. How much do you want?” Shi Feng truly felt regretful now. Due to the successful sales of Hard Stones, Shi Feng now had over 70 Gold Coins on his person. If he had known something like this would happen, he would have stored all his money in the Bank before coming to the Library.

However, there was also another possibility. Only when players possessed a certain amount of money could they trigger the revelation of new information. If so, without a doubt, Shi Feng had reached this goal.

“Not much; an additional 40 Gold Coins would be enough. Of course, you can choose not to listen to this new information. I’m not trying to belittle you, but with your current strength, it is impossible for you to locate the Bible of Darkness by relying on the old clue. Are you sure you don’t want to know this new clue?” Sharlyn blinked her eyes at Shi Feng, her body radiating a holy aura. Those affected by this aura would find it hard to refuse Sharlyn’s request.

A total of 50 Gold Coins.

At this moment, Shi Feng wanted to shout, “Why don’t you just rob me and be done with it?!”

However, Shi Feng endured it. As long as he could obtain the reward for the Epic Quest, spending 50 Gold Coins was nothing in comparison.

“Here is 40 Gold Coins.” Shi Feng ground his teeth as he placed another 40 Gold Coins on the stone table, forming a small, gold mountain.

Sharlyn's eyes shone as she saw the small mountain of gold. After snagging the Gold Coins, she unhurriedly took out a letter and handed it to Shi Feng. She then said, "This is a contract for White River City's Starstreak Trading Firm. As long as you bring this contract to President Henry, he will tell you how to reach the Dark Den."

Chapter 219 - Background

Starstreak Trading Firm? Shi Feng was slightly confused by Sharlyn's words.

After all, this was the second phase of an Epic Quest. Yet, Sharlyn did not send him on a dangerous mission, but simply to find a person instead? The difficulty of this task was simply inconceivable.

Could money really make the Devil turn millstones for you? Can spending money reduce the difficulty of a quest? Shi Feng wondered.

Giving the situation some thought, it wasn't exactly impossible.

Right now, a first-rate Guild's daily liquid funds only amounted to six to seven Gold Coins at best. Even if Fantasy Extinguisher had the full support of the first-rate Guild, the Fantasy Shrine, it would have been impossible for him to gather 50 Gold Coins. Even if the Fantasy Shrine possessed 50 Gold Coins, they would not simply allow Fantasy Extinguisher to spend it. After all, a large Guild could make major improvements to itself with 50 Gold Coins.

If Shi Feng had not received a daily income of over 100 Gold Coins from selling the Hard Stones, he would not pay 50 Gold Coins, even if it killed him.

According to the Main God System's principle of equal value exchange, there was a very high possibility that he could reduce the difficulty of the Epic Quest by paying 50 Gold Coins.

In any case, Shi Feng did not lack money right now. After all, he had a daily income of over 100 Gold. His earnings could rival the total sum of all the famous Guilds' liquid funds in White River City. It was not an exaggeration to say that his personal wealth could rival an entire city's.

If he could reduce the difficulty of an Epic Quest by paying some money, he would definitely do so.

If he had known about this earlier, he would've waited a few more days before coming to meet Sharlyn. If he gathered 500 or 600 Gold Coins, he might be able to go to the Dark Den immediately to complete the quest. He would save plenty of time and trouble.

"Thank you, Lady Sharlyn." Shi Feng respectfully received the contract.

"I have faith in you. Don't make me wait too long. As more time passes, the strength of the great demon will also increase. At that time, even I might not be able to challenge it. As for you, you'll just have to live the remainder of your life as a walking corpse," Sharlyn warned.

System: Second phase of the Epic Quest 'Darkness Descends,' 'Gospel Project', accepted.

Quest content: Go to Starstreak Trading Firm and look for President Henry for more information about the Dark Den. Rewards unknown.

Although Shi Feng did not know the exact contents of the quest, he felt that it should not be as easy as he had previously imagined. After all, he was only meeting Henry to learn more information and not heading directly to the Dark Den.

Starstreak Trading Firm was very famous throughout White River City.

The range of operation of the Starstreak Trading Firm was not limited to White River City alone. It also operated in the seven cities surrounding White River City. It was a massive trading firm.

With such a wide reach, the amount of information they possessed would be immense as well.

It was no wonder Sharlyn sent him to meet President Henry.

Soon after, Shi Feng bade farewell to Sharlyn. If he remained here, the remaining 20 Gold Coins in his pockets might very well end up in Sharlyn's pockets instead.

After leaving the Library, Shi Feng hailed a horse carriage and hurried over to Starstreak Trading Firm.

As the horse carriage galloped through the wide streets, Shi Feng could see players who had just arrived at White River City all around. Through the passing of time, the atmosphere in White River City had grown livelier. There was a high possibility that, in just another few days, the streets of White River City would be packed with people.

Ten minutes or so later, the horse carriage halted in front of the storefront of Starstreak Trading Firm.

The Starstreak Trading Firm's store appeared luxurious. The building had a total of six floors. This store was definitely one of the tallest buildings in White River City, making it extremely eye-catching. Moreover, it was situated in a very good location; right in the heart of the Trade Area. The Bank of White River City was also just next door, while the Auction House was only a short distance away.

There were only eight shops in total situated within this golden district. Among them, three shops occupied the largest areas; each occupied two to three times more land than the other shops. Naturally, Starstreak Trading Firm was one of these shops. Moreover, Starstreak Trading Firm similarly occupied such a golden district in the other seven cities. It was obvious just how powerful the background of Starstreak Trading Firm was.

During the initial stages of God's Domain, countless first-rate Guilds had tried to form connections with the Starstreak Trading Firm to conduct business. Unfortunately, these Guilds failed to meet even the shadow of President Henry. Yet, right now, Shi Feng could get in touch with President Henry through his quest.

Shi Feng couldn't help but admit that an Epic Quest was truly awe-inspiring. Although the price of failure was similarly horrifying, as long as he could complete it, the benefits he could obtain were unimaginable.

The best example for this was the Demon Hunter title and Demon Mask Shi Feng had received from completing the first phase of the Darkness Descends quest. These two items had been of great help to him.

I wonder what sort of rewards I could obtain from completing this phase of the quest? Shi Feng inwardly felt anticipation.

As of this moment, Shi Feng had finally realized why the Fantasy Shrine would hold nothing back in helping Fantasy Extinguisher complete his Epic Quest. After all, the profits they could reap from this quest was just astonishing. If a mere independent player like him could receive such profits, what could a Guild accomplish?

Hence, this was the reason the Fantasy Shrine had risen to the top of Black Dragon Empire during the early periods of the game in the past, suppressing all the other first-rate Guilds. Unfortunately, Fantasy Shrine was doomed to normality in this life. Unless Fantasy Extinguisher managed to find another Epic Quest, Fantasy Shrine would not have any chances of achieving prominence. However, such a discovery was extremely unlikely.

In the past, Shi Feng had only accepted one Epic Quest throughout the decade he had spent in God's Domain. Moreover, he had only received it by chance when he was around Level 150. One could imagine just how rare an Epic Quest was.

At this moment, Shi Feng suddenly received a system announcement.

White River City Region System Announcement: Congratulations to Ouroboros for becoming the first team to conquer the Hard Mode Crystal Ruins. All players within the team will be rewarded with 50,000 EXP and 1 Silver Coin.

White River City Region System Announcement: Congratulations to Ouroboros for becoming the fastest team to conquer the Hard Mode Crystal Ruins. All players within the team will be rewarded with 50,000 EXP and one Tier 1 Gemstone of random Attribute.

This system announcement undeniably caused a sensation among the players in White River City.

Right now, the independent players who had arrived in White River City all had impressive techniques. Meanwhile, a large majority of them were unwilling to join a small Guild; they all wished to join a large, top-tier Guild.

However, these independent players would not determine a Guild's strength solely through the fame of the Guild. After all, every time a Guild started out in a new virtual reality game, they had to start from the very bottom. Moreover, there would always be some nameless Guild suddenly rising in the ranks, becoming the tyrant of this new virtual reality game. Similarly, there was also plenty of well-known Guilds that had vanished without a trace. Hence, players would usually determine a Guild's strength through their Dungeon raiding capabilities.

This situation also caused the system announcements to be extraordinarily important to Guilds, as this was the basis of reference for independent players.

In fact, the players who had previously intended to join the Assassin's Alliance had all changed their minds to join Ouroboros instead. After all, not only was Ouroboros a first-rate Guild, but they had also obtained the First Clear of a Hell Mode Dungeon. Regarding wealth, influence, or strength, Ouroboros was far more powerful than the Assassin's Alliance. Even an idiot knew which Guild to choose.

This was the difference in backgrounds...

As expected of Gentle Snow; her speed is astonishing. I've only just recently helped the Assassin's Alliance obtain the First Clear of a 20-man Hard Mode Team Dungeon, yet, in the blink of an eye, she too has obtained one already. If she had not suddenly stopped playing God's Domain, she might have turned Ouroboros into a Super Guild in the past. Shi Feng inwardly exclaimed.

How great would it be if he could recruit Gentle Snow into his own Guild? If Shi Feng incorporated the Cleric God, Violet Cloud, the Tyrant Bear, Cola, the skillful Fire Dance, and his own past experiences into his own Guild, they would have no trouble becoming a first-rate Guild, or even a Super Guild, in the future.

Thinking up to this point, Shi Feng suddenly felt that he really needed to upgrade his team's strength. After all, a Guild couldn't rely on a handful of apex experts for support. They needed a stronger backbone. The best case scenario for Shi Feng right now was to recruit some of the future powerhouses who were still obscure existences right now.

However, the Guild he established by himself did not possess a deep background or great fame. These experts were no fools. If Shi Feng tried to recruit them, they might not even consider the option before rejecting him.

Hence, the foremost thing Shi Feng needed to do was to establish a Guild with a strong background and limitless potential. Only by doing so could he attract those nameless experts.

Chapter 220 - Tier 4 Magic Scroll

First-floor reception hall of Starstreak Trading Firm.

The Starstreak Trading Firm's store was different from normal stores. As it specialized in big businesses across cities, it had its own specialized reception room set up in the building. At the same time, there was also a sales area located on the first floor of the building. The sales area sold various merchandise such as clothing, weapons, equipment, potions, alchemy products, magic scrolls, and much more. This place was just like a supermarket in reality.

A trading firm was different from the Auction House. As the Auction House charged players exorbitant processing fees, the items sold there were far more expensive than the items sold in normal stores. Earning money in God's Domain was no simple task. Hence, rather selling their wares at the Auction

Houses, losing 15% of their profits in the process, a large majority of the players in God's Domain would prefer to spend more time, selling their wares at trading companies or stores.

"Esteemed Sir, how may I assist you?" The beautiful and dignified young lady at the receptionist counter smiled at Shi Feng.

"I wish to meet President Henry. Please tell President Henry that Lady Sharlyn sent me to speak with him," Shi Feng said.

"Please wait for a moment. I will notify the president immediately."

The receptionist immediately took out a Multicolored Communication Crystal, transferring Shi Feng's information through the crystal.

After several minutes...

"Mister Ye Feng, the President is waiting for you in the President's Office on the third floor."

"Thank you."

Immediately, Shi Feng walked towards the spiral staircase in the distance.

When he arrived before the President's Office on the third floor, he met two Level 150 guards who stood by the office's door. Average players were absolutely not allowed to enter the President's Office.

In the past, countless Guild executives had queued up in front of this office. They had wished to meet with President Henry to discuss matters of renting out the first floor of Starstreak Trading Firm's store for business. Unfortunately, they did not manage to catch even the shadow of President Henry.

However, when Shi Feng walked up to the office, the two ferocious-looking guards immediately parted the sturdy, mahogany doors for him.

Inside the luxurious and spacious office, a man in his fifties sat on a sofa in the middle of the room. The man had an elegant and dignified appearance. This person was indeed President Henry of Starstreak Trading Firm, and he was a well-known financial magnate in White River City.

"Your Excellency, Ye Feng, please, sit," President Henry said when his eyes met Shi Feng's, his finger pointing to the beastskin sofa before him.

"President Henry, this is the contract that Miss Sharlyn wanted me to bring to you." Shi Feng sat down. He retrieved the contract from his bag, handing it over for Henry's inspection.

"No need. Before you arrived, Her Highness Sharlyn had already notified me of your coming here. I've also learned some information about you from Her Highness Sharlyn. The young truly are promising," Henry praised. He then said, "Since you are here now, I feel reassured."

"Reassured? What are you reassured about?" Shi Feng had a bewildered look on his face. Just what was President Henry saying?

Also, just what did Sharlyn tell Henry?

“Oh? Did Her Highness Sharlyn not tell Your Excellency about it?” Confused, Henry said, “This contract was set between me and Her Highness Sharlyn. As long as Her Highness can save the Starstreak Trading Firm from its current predicament, she will obtain 20% of Starstreak Trading Firm’s shares and the Tier 4 Magic Scroll that was obtained from the ancient ruins.”

“You say 20% of the company’s shares and a Tier 4 Magic Scroll?” Shi Feng’s expression froze.

Sharlyn was simply ruthless. Sharlyn had sent him to deal with the predicament, yet, she would receive a Tier 4 Magic Scroll in addition to 20% of the company’s shares?

“That’s right. I’ve already mentioned this to Her Highness. As long as Your Excellency can save us from this predicament, that Tier 4 Magic Scroll will belong to Your Excellency,” Henry said, nodding his head.

“May I know what kind of magic scroll it is?” Shi Feng was incredibly curious about the Tier 4 Magic Scroll.

In the past, the most powerful magic scroll Shi Feng had seen was only a Tier 4. If he sold the scroll, the minimum price for it would be 500 Gold Coins. If it were an amazing Tier 4 Magic Scroll, he could even sell it for over 1,000 Gold Coins. However, players who obtained a Tier 4 Magic Scroll were not usually willing to sell it.

“It is a Tier 4 Position Teleportation Scroll. With it, one can teleport to anywhere they wished within an instant. However, this scroll was made using the technology of an ancient civilization. In our current era, we have no way of replicating such technology. Hence, this scroll is the only one that currently exists in Star-Moon Kingdom. It is priceless,” Henry said proudly. This scroll was his most precious treasure; he had always been reluctant to part with it. If it were not for the trading firm facing a great predicament, he would never willingly offer this Tier 4 Magic Scroll as a remuneration.

Hearing Henry saying so, Shi Feng came to a realization.

If he had the Tier 4 Position Teleportation Scroll, he could teleport directly to the Dark Den. He would not even have to waste time searching for its exact location. It was no wonder Sharlyn was so confident in her information.

“President Henry, I wonder what sort of predicament your trading firm wishes me to solve?” Shi Feng asked.

“To be honest, bandits have snatched one of our shipments carrying precious merchandise, costing the trading firm massively. To make up for the loss, our trading firm had to pay a large sum of money as compensation, which in turn, resulted in our trading firm facing its current crisis. So, I hope that Your Excellency can help us resolve this predicament. Otherwise, if this problem drags on for another month, our trading firm will have to declare bankruptcy,” Henry unhurriedly explained.

“Then, President Henry, are you telling me to get rid of those bandits and retrieve your stolen merchandise?”

“It would be best if that is possible.”

“Then, which band of bandits stole your merchandise?”

“The Black Scorpion Corps of Black Cloud Ridge, led by Black Scorpion himself. He is a Level 180 Tier 3 Shadow Warrior. If you can get rid of him and retrieve our merchandise, I would greatly appreciate it.”

Hearing the words “Tier 3 Shadow Warrior,” Shi Feng nearly fell off of his seat.

Was President Henry telling him to deal with a Tier 3 NPC? Only players who did not know how to write the word “death” would accept this request! Not to mention a month, Shi Feng would still fail this task even if he had two years to complete it!

This had to be a joke!

Shi Feng had originally thought that the Epic Quest’s difficulty had been reduced. Rather, wasn’t this the exact opposite?!

Noticing Shi Feng’s troubled expression, Henry once more unhurriedly said, “If Your Excellency feels that this request is too difficult, there is a second option. It is also for this reason that Her Highness Sharlyn sent Your Excellency here.”

Shi Feng slightly recovered from his shock as he heard that there was a second option.

“In reality, our trading firm also feels that it is impossible to retrieve the merchandise. The only possibility for Starstreak Trading Firm to get through this predicament is for us to collect 30,000 Gold Coins within a month.

“Her Highness Sharlyn has always praised Your Excellency as a business prodigy. If Your Excellency manages our Starstreak Trading Firm, I believe that we can achieve that goal.”

Seeing Henry’s anticipating gaze, Shi Feng only wanted to curse.

Just because he managed to earn a few Coins, he was suddenly a business prodigy...

What kind of sick joke was this?

Earning 30,000 Gold in a month! Moreover, he didn't actually have 30 days at all! Considering the time when the great demon would appear, Shi Feng would, at most, have 20 days to earn 30,000 Gold Coins. Even if he currently earned 100 Gold or so per day, ten days would only net him 1,000 Gold, while 30 days would only net him at 3,000 Gold. That was only one-tenth of the required amount!

Players were still stuck in the initial stages of God's Domain right now, so it was impossible for anyone to make that much money.

If one added a week's earnings of every player in the White River City region together, it might equal 30,000 Gold. How was he supposed to earn that sort of money?

He might as well become a bandit and snatch the money from someone else.

No, that's not right! Even if he tried to steal it, there was no way he could get that much money!

Before Shi Feng could reject the quest, a system notification popped up before him.

System: Epic Quest Phase 2 'Gospel Project' accepted.

Quest content: You have become the manager of Starstreak Trading Firm! Earn 30,000 Gold Coins within a month and resolve Starstreak Trading Firm's predicament! Rewards Unknown.

