

The Strongest

chapter 931: Titan Library

As far as Shi Feng knew, there should have only been one exit leading to the entrance trial's third stage.

The golden teleportation array that had suddenly appeared was much stronger than the array in the center of the plaza. The Mana density around each teleportation array made that obvious.

With this new development, the team turned to Shi Feng and asked, "Leader, should we go over and take a look?"

Previously, they had watched Peerless's team use the central teleportation array to leave the plaza. Now that another had appeared, they didn't know whether or not that teleportation array was a trap; after all, this was their first time here.

Could it be a special reward for the First Kill? Shi Feng felt that it was highly possible.

When he had killed the King of Corrosion in the past, no such phenomenon had occurred. Of course, when he had killed Sailu Tiban back then, other teams had raided the Grand Lord many times before.

As for the golden teleportation array being a trap, it was unlikely.

After all, revealing a trap after players had defeated the Stage Boss would be too fraudulent. The teleportation array was most likely a reward of some kind.

“Let’s head over to investigate.” In the end, Shi Feng decided to examine it.

Under Shi Feng’s command, the team approached the golden teleportation array. As no monsters dared move near to the array, they had an easy time reaching it.

The instant Shi Feng stepped into the teleportation array, his mind felt clearer than ever before. Moreover, a Brimming with Energy buff had appeared in his status window.

The sound of a system notification suddenly reached his ears.

System: You have discovered the Teleportation Magic Array to Titan Library.

Sure enough, it’s the First Kill reward. Shi Feng was ecstatic when he heard the system notification.

There were two main benefits to visiting Titan City. The first was that Lifestyle players could use the Titan Workshops to improve their skills. The other was the Titan Library, which all players dreamed of exploring.

Generally, for players seeking the Titan Library, they first needed to reach the third stage and then take the path to the Library. However, while that path would also eventually lead players to Titan City, it was

significantly more difficult than the path that led to Titan City directly. Players usually chose the latter option to ensure their Titan City entrance slots. Shi Feng had never imagined that obtaining the King of Corrosion's First Kill would garner such a benefit as well.

Following which, Shi Feng walked towards the teleportation array's center and activated it.

Everyone instantly transformed into streaks of golden light and vanished. After the team disappeared, the golden teleportation array faded as well, silence returning to the spacious plaza.

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The entrance trial's third stage consisted of narrow pathways. Barely three people could walk, side by side, down the pathways. Meanwhile, bottomless pits lined each pathway on either side. If a player fell off the pathway, it wouldn't even be possible to revive them. They would be instantly disqualified from the entrance trial.

Aside from this dangerous pathway, there were large groups of bat monsters flying through the air that frequently screeched soundwave attacks. If players were not careful and failed to avoid these attacks, they may plunge to their deaths.

When Peerless's team arrived here, they were immediately thrown into a bitter battle.

The weakest bat monsters here were Special Elites, with many being Chieftains. There were even Level 45 Lord ranked Bat Kings. When these bats caught players, they immediately threw them into the abyss. These bat monsters were far more difficult to deal with than the Corrosive Beasts. The fact that players would be disqualified if they fell off the pathway was particularly harsh.

“Use the Sound Bombs!” Peerless shouted when he saw bat monsters gather around them.

Against ordinary monsters, the Sound Bombs weren’t particularly effective. The bombs only made some noise to disturb monsters. However, against the bat monsters, the bombs’ effect was massive. A single explosion would scare away these monsters, preventing them from approaching for a short time.

Peerless had specifically prepared this item to deal with the bat monsters.

During his second trial attempt, his team had been utterly helpless against the bat monsters. From time to time, the Bat Kings would fly past, grabbing and tossing their team members into the abyss. Before they had even reached the halfway point, the entire team had fallen to their deaths.

Under Peerless’s command, the team members took out their Sound Bombs and threw them at the clumped bat monsters. The explosions scared the incoming bats away.

“Move faster! Use the Sound Bombs sparingly!” Peerless shouted hurriedly.

Although the Sound Bombs were impressively effective, they were extremely rare. Even utilizing their Guild’s strength, they had only managed to procure a small stock. If they did not conserve their bombs, they wouldn’t make it through this tortuous abyss.

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Meanwhile, on the other path leading to Titan City, Shi Feng and the others suddenly appeared before an ancient, towering fortress.

The ancient fortress loomed over a thousand meters high. The building itself looked like a mountain. Level 200 NPC guards stood before the fortress's iron gates.

These two NPCs were over ten meters tall. When these NPCs saw Shi Feng and the others, they blocked the gates with their spears.

"This is the Great Titan Library! Outsiders are not allowed to enter!" one of the NPC guards coldly informed the players as he swept a glance over Shi Feng and the others. "If you wish to enter, you need to pass our test."

The team members were shocked when they saw the Titan Library.

It was, by far, the largest library they had ever seen in God's Domain.

Players were not strangers to God's Domain's libraries. It was especially true for magical class players. All magical class players who wanted to practice and improve their spellcasting techniques or learn new Spells generally did so in a library.

However, gaining entrance into NPC cities' libraries was a difficult feat. One typically needed to be a noble or a friend of the city's NPC nobles to gain access.

Aside from allowing players to learn Spells, libraries' greatest purpose was information gathering.

In truth, players could find information on many quests in God's Domain in libraries. For example, the information Youlan had regarding the Holy City of Titan was available in libraries in NPC cities.

However, the libraries in God's Domain varied in size. Each library also contained different information. Hence, the various large Guilds usually created their own intelligence departments specifically to gather information from various libraries and compile their own information databases. This made it easier for their Guild members to find information on their quests.

As for Shi Feng, who had the Demon Hunter title, he was considered a World Noble in God's Domain. Hence, utilizing his privilege as a World Noble, he had led Zero Wing's members into God's Domain's various libraries. Unfortunately, the Demon Hunter title only gave him access to libraries in ordinary NPC cities; it did not give him access to kingdoms and imperial capitals' libraries. Players had to rely on their own capabilities to gain entrance.

Even so, the information Zero Wing had collected was even more comprehensive than first-rate Guilds'.

"We will accept the test," Shi Feng announced as he stepped forward.

"Very well. You only have one chance. If you pass the test, you may learn from our library."

chapter 932: Advantage of Tier 1 Players

When the team heard that they could enter the Titan Library if they passed the test, elation colored their expressions. The team's magical classes were particularly eager, their eyes alight as they hungered to enter the library as soon as possible.

"Everyone, rest up. Make sure you are in peak condition before you llenge the test," Shi Feng instructed his team.

Each person only had one nce to pass the test. If they failed, they would not gain access to the library; they would only find another nce to take the test when they came through the trial again. However, it would be far more difficult to reach the Titan Library next time.

While Shi Feng was confident in leading everyone to Titan City, the same could not be said for the Titan Library.

In the past, many independent players had chosen to take the Library's test whenever they got their hands on a pass. However, since reaching the Titan Library was more difficult than the direct path to Titan City, very few players had passed the test. Even so, everyone wanted to try.

This was all because players could learn extremely rare Skills in the Titan Library.

These rare Skills could improve a player's combat power significantly. For example, Shi Feng's Flame Burst was one such rare Skill. Moreover, these Skills generally did not require Proficiency to level, only EXP. Hence, a player could dump a large sum of EXP into leveling these Skills during a crucial moment with the hope of turning the situation around.

"Your test is simple. Because you are all Tier 1 classes, you just need to kill a Chieftain of the same level within a certain time. If you fail to defeat your opponent within the given time, you fail the test." After the Titan NPC finished explaining, the spear in his hand trembled.

Suddenly, a golden magic array with a 5-yard-radius appeared a short distance away.

“That is your arena. When you are ready to take the test, simply step into the array,” the Titan NPC said as he pointed at the golden magic array. The NPC then fell silent as he resumed guarding the closed gates.

As the team members listened to the test’s rules, they frowned.

Ordinary experts could not solo a Chieftain of the same level, not to mention doing so within a limited time. Since the system had placed a time-limit on the test, it was obvious that players would not have long.

“Just enter the array when you’re ready,” Shi Feng said. He could not help but laugh and shake his head when he saw everyone’s depressed expressions.

In reality, Tier 1 players had a benefit when they came here. When Tier 2 players took the test, they had to solo a High Lord of the same level; that monster was two ranks higher. Compared to a High Lord, a Chieftain seemed cute.

After saying so, Shi Feng entered the magic array. He then transformed into a streak of golden light and disappeared.

After watching Shi Feng enter the test, the rest of the team stepped into the magic array as well. Even if they were not confident of succeeding, they had to try.

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After players entered the golden magic array, they were transported to a peculiar space.

When Shi Feng opened his eyes, he discovered that he had teleported to a wide, open prairie with no end in sight. Meanwhile, 200 yards away from him lay a flaming rhinoceros that was over five meters tall.

[Crimson Rhinoceros] (Elemental Being, Chieftain) Level 43 HP 400,000/400,000

The Library's test monster had far less HP than an ordinary Chieftain. The point of this test was to see if players could face these monsters head-on.

As Shi Feng prepared to approach the rhinoceros, he heard the sound of a system notification.

System: You have 10 minutes to complete the battle. If you cannot finish the battle within the allotted time, you will be automatically transferred out of this instance.

"The system's giving players ten minutes? It sure is favoring Tier 1 players." Shi Feng could not help but sigh.

When Tier 2 players lended the test, they only had 20 minutes. However, their monster was a High Lord.

Wasting no time, Shi Feng walked towards the Crimson Rhinoceros.

When Shi Feng was only 70 yards away from the Crimson Rhinoceros, the Chieftain discovered his presence. Immediately, it snorted scorching flames from its nostrils and stomped the ground angrily. It then roared at Shi Feng. When it moved, it thundered like a speeding truck.

Seeing this, Shi Feng activated Flame Burst. With light steps, he easily evaded the Crimson Rhinoceros's charge and slashed the Chieftain's back.

Peng!

The attack sent the rhinoceros flying over a dozen yards. When it slammed into the ground, it released a pained cry. A damage of -28,167 points appeared above its head.

Shi Feng then activated Silent Steps and appeared behind the Crimson Rhinoceros. He brandished his swords at the Chieftain, every slash leaving a deep cut.

Suddenly, Shi Feng's attack triggered Killing Ray's Lightning effect. Combined with Flame Burst's effect, the attack dealt -67,846 damage.

Before Shi Feng had used all of Flame Burst's attack counts, the Crimson Rhinoceros burst into flames, disappearing from the prairie and leaving behind a black iron token. The token was the required proof he needed to enter the Titan Library.

System: Congratulations! You have killed the Crimson Rhinoceros. Time remaining: 9 minutes 52 seconds

System: You will return in five seconds. Please prepare.

After Shi Feng picked up the token, he quietly waited for his teleportation away from this map.

To him, the library's test was not a challenge in the least. He had long since surpassed Chieftains of the same level in terms of Strength. Even without any special techniques, he could easily kill an ordinary Chieftain of the same level, not to mention one with weakened HP.

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In front of the Titan Library, many members were still preparing themselves mentally. When a figure suddenly appeared in the golden array, they turned to look.

“What? Someone has finished already? It's only been a few seconds.”

“Did the monster kill them?”

Those who hadn't taken the test yet grew even more nervous.

However, when they Shi Feng emerge, their jaws dropped.

“Isn't he too fast?!” None of them doubted that Shi Feng had passed the test. If he couldn't do it, no one could. However, he had cleared the test astonishingly fast.

Not even twenty seconds had passed since he had entered the array.

That was a Chieftain they were talking about! A Party Dungeon's Boss! This wasn't some ordinary monster they usually farmed!

"Why haven't you guys taken the test yet?" Shi Feng glanced over the group before the gates. There were over two dozen players who had yet to take the exam, and they were all Youlan's subordinates. He then advised them, "Relax. The test isn't as difficult as you imagine. Although the monster is indeed a Chieftain, its HP has been reduced."

Youlan's subordinates were speechless.

Even with reduced HP, a Chieftain was still a Chieftain, yet Shi Feng talked as if it was some random mob that was too easy to slaughter.

Shortly after Shi Feng had returned, Fire Dance stepped out of the magic array as well. Following which, one player after another emerged.

Why are there so many people ahead of me? When Bloodsucker returned, he saw a large group already standing before the iron gates. Even Violet Cloud was among them. He was confused.

He could accept monster-like damage dealers such as Shi Feng, Fire Dance, and White Night completing the test faster than him. But Violet Cloud was a Cleric. She was a mere healer.

chapter 933: Grand Wizard

As more people returned from their tests, the difference between Zero Wing's side and Overwhelming Smile's side became glaringly obvious.

In the end, 21 of the 30 Zero Wing members had cleared the test.

As for Overwhelming Smile's 50 members, only 15 had passed.

All of Owl and Raven's members had cleared the test.

Why does Zero Wing have so many experts? Youlan was shocked when she saw how many players from Zero Wing's side had passed. Although she knew that there was a huge gap between their teams, she had not realized how massive that gap was.

Youlan wasn't the only person caught by surprise. Even an expert like War Wolf was astonished.

They had formed their team by poaching experts from various sources. Overall, their team could rival even first-rate Guilds' main forces.

On the other hand, Zero Wing had only developed in Star-Moon Kingdom, yet regarding the quality and quantity of experts, Zero Wing's team was far greatly superior to theirs.

"Since everyone has finished the test, those who did not pass will wait by the entrance. Those who passed can head inside," Shi Feng said as looked over the team. He had sensed Youlan and her group's confusion. However, he simply smiled at their actions. He then arranged for everyone to enter the library.

Naturally, it was impossible for Zero Wing to surpass first-rate Guilds in terms of quantity of experts.

First-rate Guilds had been developing in the virtual gaming world for a long time. In addition, these Guilds weren't limited to developing in just one country, but multiple. In terms of member count, they exceeded Zero Wing by many times. Zero Wing was no match for them.

Zero Wing's only advantage over these Guilds was their number of top-tier experts.

This was also why Shi Feng wanted to develop in other countries. There were only so many top-tier experts in Star-Moon Kingdom. Unless they nurtured their own, they couldn't continue to build their forces of top-tier experts. Furthermore, they needed to recruit far more elite and ordinary expert players.

Following which, under Shi Feng's lead, all those who passed their tests began entering the Titan Library one after another.

The Titan Library was relatively ancient in God's Domain. It was far older than any kingdom or empire's library. Those libraries could not compare to the information it contained.

Suddenly a gray-robed man with a blurred face appeared before the team and said, "Young adventurers, welcome to the Titan Library. I am Warren, the manager here."

Warren was not a Titan. He was the same size as an ordinary human. As if he were a robot, he spoke without emotion. However, the instant this man appeared, everyone felt as if they were suffocating.

Warren's powerful aura rendered these players helpless.

Although they couldn't accurately guess the library manager's strength, they did not doubt that the man could end their lives as easily as blowing out a candle.

Shi Feng, however, knew exactly how powerful Warren was.

He was a Tier 5 Grand Wizard!

Moreover, Warren wasn't an ordinary Tier 5 class. He was a Grand Wizard who had mastered all four major elements. A Grand Wizard with mastery over two elements was already impressive. Tier 5 players generally only mastered one element, and it was exceedingly difficult to master another.

In Shi Feng's previous life, disaster had befallen Titan City, and it was only thanks to Manager Warren that this disaster had been mitigated.

Warren had fought three Tier 5 abyssal monsters. Normally, it would take a small army of Tier 5 players to defeat just one Tier 5 abyssal monster, yet Warren had single-handedly defeated all three. The news had spread through God's Domain like wildfire.

It was also then that players had realized just how frightening a Grand Wizard, who had mastered all four major elements, was.

“Now that you have come this far, you are allowed to search for one Skill Book to learn from. The Titan Library has stood for many years and has collected various Skill Books from all across God’s Domain. One can even find legendary Tier 6 Skill Books on these shelves. However, you only have three hours to find a Skill Book, and you only have three opportunities to learn from this library throughout your lifetime. There are also various restrictions in the library. The stronger the Skill Book is, the stronger the restriction will be. What kind of Skill Book you obtain will depend on your own abilities. Do not waste time out of greed over a powerful Skill,” Warren explained slowly.

Hearing this, the players’ eyes lit up with excitement.

In God’s Domain, a Skill’s rarity increased with Levels and Tiers. Currently, even Tier 2 Skill Books were beyond players, let alone Tier 6.

Only someone like Shi Feng understood how precious a Tier 6 Skill Book was. Its value could even rival that of a Fragmented Legendary item. Tier 5 Skills and Spells weren’t easy to obtain either. One had to be lucky to find one.

Even after reaching Tier 4 and 5, many players in the past had only possessed a few Skills or Spells of the same Tier.

Meanwhile, Titan Library just happened to allow players access to these rare Skills and Spells. Hence, players constantly fought to challenge the Titan Library’s test. Unfortunately, very few players had ever come this far.

This opportunity to grasp a high-tiered Skill or Spell was far more valuable than an Epic Weapon.

Warren had vanished after he finished his explanation of the library. Without wasting any time, Shi Feng and the others split up to search for their own Skill Books.

The Titan Library was colossal and had many sections. Finding a suitable high-tiered Skill Book within three hours would not be easy. Hence, they needed to cherish every second they had.

Following which, Shi Feng dashed towards the section for Melee Skills.

In the Titan Library, Skill and Spell Books were not categorized by class. Rather, they fell into four main groups: Melee Skills, Ranged Skills, Healing Spells, and Destruction Spells.

Melee players like Shi Feng had to head towards the Melee Skill section. Of course, one could also choose a Skill from the Ranged Skill section.

Once Shi Feng reached the Melee Skill section, he delved deeper into the section.

Every library section was divided further into four areas: the outer area, the inner area, the central area, and the core.

There were thousands of Skill Books in the outer area. Shi Feng could waste his three hours just skimming through those books.

Meanwhile, as one ventured closer to each section's center, they would find fewer and higher quality Skill Books. However, based on what Shi Feng had heard in his previous life, even the core housed over a hundred Skill Books. The Titan Library's wealth of information would shock any player.

As Shi Feng left the outer area and approached the inner area, a barrier appeared, blocking his path.

chapter 934: Tier 3 Sure-kill Skill

The barrier against Tier 1 classes is stronger than I expected.

Shi Feng lifted a hand to the invisible wall. The wall acted like a massive repulsion field that enclosed the three innermost areas. Players could not force their way in.

This was also why Warren had warned them not to be greedy.

There were too many Skill and Spell Books in the Titan Library, and it was very difficult to find a book that suited each player within a limited time.

If they focused on breaking through these invisible barriers, they might leave empty-handed.

Players could not rely on their Strength to break through the library's barriers. They could, however, rely on techniques.

Upon reaching the repulsion field, players' every aspect would be suppressed to a certain extent. Even Tier 4 and Tier 5 players were not exempt. Inside the repulsion field, there were countless air currents. These air currents would barrage anyone within the field. If players did not respond appropriately, they would be thrown from the repulsion field.

As Shi Feng entered the field, many others also began to move. None of them were interested in the outer area's Skill Books. However, the moment these people entered the repulsion field, they slowed to a crawl as if they had been submerged in mud. With their speed crippled, several streams of air rushed at them. Failing to dodge in time, these people were expelled from the repulsion field.

One of Raven's members, Masked Angel, rushed into the repulsion field.

"You think you can stop me with this little trick?!" Once Masked Angel stepped into the repulsion field, he sneered as he pushed further into the inner area with long strides.

Over 100 yards of repulsion field separated the outer and inner area.

Masked Angel quickly crossed over a dozen yards through the field, moving as if the air currents were nonexistent.

"Amazing!" a few people who had been thrown from the repulsion field exclaimed.

When they had entered the repulsion field, they hadn't been able to move normally at all, yet Masked Angel did not seem to have any issues.

As a few streams of violent air tore towards Masked Angel, he dodged every one with a mysterious footwork technique. He then continued forward.

"What?! How are his movements so smooth?! Does the suppression's strength depend on the player?"

"That shouldn't be the case."

These players watched Masked Angel reach the halfway point with envy.

As long as Masked Angel passed through this restricted area, he could search the inner area's Skill Books. Even a fool could guess the difference between the outer area's Skill Books and those in the inner area.

They had already flipped through a few Skill Books in the outer area, and all they found were Tier 1 and Tier 2 books. While these Skill Books were very valuable, they would be of little use in the future. Only the inner area's Skill Books could give them an edge as they leveled.

As expected of an expert of Raven, he discerned the repulsion field's rules as soon as he entered. Shi Feng was not particularly surprised when he saw Masked Angel move through the repulsion field with ease. After all, Masked Angel was a Refinement Realm expert.

The resistance players encountered in the repulsion field was not monotonous. Rather, it nged randomly. Players might encounter weaker resistance in some areas, and stronger resistance in others.

It was like firing an automatic machine gun from a long distance. One or multiple bullets might cross some areas, while others wouldn't see any bullets. If someone attempted to rge through the repulsion field while ignoring this fact, they would quickly be expelled to the outer area. However, if one knew where the bullets would fly, traversing the repulsion field would be a simple matter. Unfortunately, adapting to the various resistances wasn't so simple.

Once Masked Angel had ventured over 50 yards through the repulsion field, his expression darkened. He also began to stiffen.

More air currents began to assault him simultaneously, going from the initial three to five, to seven or eight. The repulsion field began to grow more difficult.

Finally, when Masked Angel was 70 yards deep, an air current struck him and threw him from the field.

The spectating players in the outer area were dumbfounded. Masked Angel had been doing fine up until this point. Why had he been suddenly thrown from the field?

"Why did the difficulty increase so dramatically?!" Masked Angel's expression had twisted into something ugly. "Do they even want us to pass through this thing!?"

Others might not have realized what had just happened, but he was very aware. The moment he reached the 50-yard mark, the repulsion field rapidly grew stronger, going from strong to weak and weak to strong more quickly. Even Masked Angel found it difficult to cope with the nges. Furthermore, he faced far more attacks, making it more difficult to follow the resistance nge. In the end, even after drastic evasive maneuvers, he had been removed from the field.

After Masked Angel had been thrown out, Shi Feng entered the repulsion field.

To others, it might be difficult to cope with the constantly changing resistance, but to Shi Feng, it was a walk in the park. He didn't even need to employ any techniques to avoid the incoming currents.

"Impossible!" Masked Angel was momentarily stunned.

It looked as if Shi Feng strolled casually down a road. Even after the 50-yard mark, Shi Feng continued comfortably.

After a short moment, he had left the repulsion field behind and reached the inner area.

What Masked Angel did not know, however, was that neither the resistance's strength nor the air current's attacks were effective against Shi Feng's perception.

After reaching the inner area, Shi Feng casually browsed a few Skill Books. He did not hurry towards the central area.

The barrier between the inner area and central area was many times stronger than the barrier separating the outer and inner areas. This barrier had even troubled God's Domain's apex experts of the past.

Extremely rare Tier 4 Skills could be found in abundance in the inner area. Shi Feng could also see plenty of Tier 3 Sure-kill Skills.

These Sure-kill Skills were similar to Shi Feng's Flame Burst. Flame Burst was a Tier 2 Sure-kill Skill that players could learn at Tier 0. Meanwhile, the Skill could be upgraded by sacrificing EXP. However, it

could only reach Tier 2. Even with this limitation, though, its advantages were obvious. Learning Flame Burst did not require a particular Tier. It did not require Skill Proficiency either.

Sure-kill Skills were extremely rare in God's Domain, much less a Tier 3 Sure-kill Skill. In the Auction House, it would sell for more than an Epic item. After all, many players in God's Domain would hit their limit after reaching Tier 3. It was incredibly difficult to advance. For these players, their Tier 3 Sure-kill Skills would never grow old, allowing them to hold their top ranks among Tier 3 players.

However, this would not satisfy Shi Feng.

He still had plenty of time. He could attempt to reach the section's central area.

God's Domain's apex experts dreamed of the Titan Library's central area. Not only did the central area house Tier 5 Skill Books, but it also held Tier 4 Sure-kill Skills. However, as the difficulty of reaching the Titan Library increased as one moved up in Tiers, very few apex experts could make it into the library in the first place, not to mention the central area.

Since he was already here, he had to try. If it really were not possible to proceed further, he would simply choose a Tier 3 Sure-kill Skill that was suitable.

Following which, Shi Feng arrived before the next barrier.

Unlike the inner area, there was no powerful repulsion field preventing him from reaching the central area. Instead, everything before him was shrouded in darkness. He could not see inside the central area whatsoever.

Suddenly, someone flew out of the darkness and slammed into the ground.

This person was none other than Raven's Bloodsucker. However, Bloodsucker was extremely pale, his face empty of blood. He seemed sapped of all energy. He looked like as if he had just fought through a long, life-or-death battle, completely exhausted.

"You need to be careful. It's very dangerous in there," Bloodsucker smiled bitterly as Shi Feng walking over. "I'll be logging out to rest now."

chapter 935: Sword Trajectory

As soon as Bloodsucker finished speaking, he logged out of the game.

"Is the mental burden really so heavy?" Shi Feng frowned as he watched Bloodsucker vanish.

After having observed Bloodsucker for a time, Shi Feng was certain that the man was a Void Realm expert. Even in a Super Guild, he would be an apex existence. This was also why Bloodsucker had been so confident when he had promoted his skills.

To pass the Titan Library's inner test, a player had to rely on their techniques; their skills and equipment wouldn't help them in the least.

Shi Feng found it hard to imagine how difficult it was to reach the central area for an expert like Bloodsucker to be rendered helpless.

When a player overdrew on their mental strength, they generally had to rest for three to five hours to recover. Even if one used an S-rank Nutrient Fluid to aid in their recovery, they would need to spend roughly an hour in the real world to recover fully.

However, players were only given three hours to choose a Skill Book in the Titan Library. If Bloodsucker rested for an hour in the real world, he would not have enough time to llenge the barrier between the inner and central areas.

“This test is vicious!” Shi Feng clicked his tongue.

If he failed once, he would lose a bottle of S-rank Nutrient Fluid. Moreover, even after recovering, he would only be able to choose a Skill Book from the inner area. If he did not rely on the S-rank Nutrient Fluid to recover, he would lose his opportunity to learn from any of the library’s Skill Books.

Only now did Shi Feng understand why so many apex experts had faltered before reaching the central area.

“Fortunately, I still have a few bottles of S-rank Nutrient Fluid. Without them, I wouldn’t qualify to llenge this test.” Once Shi Feng adjusted his mindset, he stepped into the dark barrier.

As soon as the darkness swallowed Shi Feng, he sensed something odd.

Not only did the barrier rob him of his sight, but it had also rendered him deaf.

Any expert's combat power would drop significantly if they lost their sight, not to mention losing both sight and hearing. With both senses suddenly muted, even staying calm would be a problem, not to mention fighting.

Moreover, without being able to see or hear, one wouldn't even know what kind of danger they faced.

Against the unknown, even an expert player's mental state would crumble.

Fortunately, Shi Feng had experienced a similar situation in the Battle Tower. Although the circumstances hadn't been as severe, they were not that different. Hence, Shi Feng remained calm and in control.

Although he had lost his sight and hearing, he still had his sense of touch and smell.

Hm? Something's coming! After venturing a few steps into the darkness, he felt the air ripple against several areas of his body. However, these ripples were extremely weak. In the blink of an eye, he felt a pricking pain where he had felt the ripples. Something hit him, and he was forced three steps back.

Following which, Shi Feng tried to advance once more. In the end, however, he met the same outcome. After a few steps, he felt weak ripples, followed by the pricking pain. Particularly in the areas he had felt the previous pain, this pain doubled.

"So, that is how this works. It's no wonder why so many experts were helpless against this test." Shi Feng smiled bitterly after a few more attempts.

It was too difficult to sense an incoming attack by air currents alone.

As a Void Realm expert, he perceived his surroundings by pushing his five senses to their very limits. However, if he relied only on his sense of touch, it would be very difficult to predict an attack. Even if he evaded the moment he perceived the needles, he couldn't dodge them.

Moreover, the pain he felt each time was frustrating, disrupting his calm.

"Since I can't dodge them, I'll have to block them." Deciding so, Shi Feng unsheathed his swords and advanced.

After the previous attempts, he had a general grasp of the needles' attacks.

Aside from powerful techniques and acute senses, the biggest reason why experts could become experts in the first place was their brain's processing speed and their ability to memorize something instantly. Once one strengthened their mind, their memorization and calculation would improve tremendously. They could then run through various simulations in their minds using what limited information they had.

In this dark area, the needle attacks were not without a pattern. For each wave of attacks, the needles would target three to five locations. Based on where Shi Feng had already been struck and how many times, a total of twelve locations on his body were being targeted.

Although he could not be certain that the needles would only attack these twelve locations, knowing them was enough.

As long as he defended these points, he couldn't be disqualified if he received a hit, even if he were hit elsewhere. At most, he would be forced to take one or two steps back and defend another location.

Following which, Shi Feng continued his advance, using his blades to form a barrier around himself as he repelled the needle attacks. Moreover, as he brandished his swords, Shi Feng refined his swords' trajectories, little by little, gradually reducing his excess movements and strengthening his defense.

As Shi Feng had speculated, there were more than twelve targets on his body; fourteen areas were being targeted. These fourteen points seemed to contain some kind of hidden meaning. As Shi Feng improved his sword trajectories, the defensive range enlarged as well. Right now, he could block roughly 40% of all attacks aimed at him from the front.

This sensation astonished Shi Feng.

He was also ecstatic over his growth.

There were still many flaws in his sword trajectories, and his slashes were not as efficient as they could be. However, now that he could block 40% of the attacks coming from the front, he could theoretically block 20 of 50 targeted attacks launched from in front of him.

After Shi Feng had ventured 50 yards into the darkness, six to eight attacks assaulted him simultaneously. The number of targets on his body also rose from 14 to 21. The sudden surge disrupted Shi Feng's rhythm, causing him to waver back and forth over the 50-yard mark.

As attacks continuously struck his body, his pain grew more intense. The attacks were even painful enough to force a strong-willed person like Shi Feng to grit his teeth.

However, although the pain distracted him slightly, Shi Feng's determination grew as he fought.

Now that he had to block 21 points, his sword trajectories became more complex. After half an hour of refining his techniques and eliminating unnecessary movement, Shi Feng finally pushed past the 50-yard mark. He could now block all of the needle attacks that assaulted him.

When he had ventured past the 80-yard mark, the attack count increased once more, increasing to 14 to 18 attacks at a time. Furthermore, he now had to defend 32 points. Although he only had to block another 11 areas, the necessary sword trajectories multiplied by several times. Even Shi Feng struggled to cope with this qualitative nge.

Even after refining his movements for over an hour, his technique still had plenty of flaws. However, he could now block 60% of the attacks launched from his front.

After several more failed attempts to perfect his sword trajectories, Shi Feng decided to gamble. Rather than trying to block all 32 targeted points, he gave up his defense over a few that did not follow his trajectories. Gritting his teeth and enduring the pain, he then attempted to cross the final 20 yards. In the end, with only 20 minutes of his three hours remaining, Shi Feng finally broke through the darkness and reached the Titan Library's central area.

chapter 936: Lightning Edge

Unlike the library's inner area, which contained many ancient bookshelves lined with books, the central area had various globes of blue water rotating around a three-story-tall water globe.

As soon as Shi Feng set foot into the central area, he felt his consciousness waver.

The constant pricking pain he had felt in the darkness had pushed him to his limits.

The Titan Library really is a special place. Shi Feng sat down and took several deep breaths.

Although he was very tired, he was ecstatic.

However, his excitement was not due to his success in reaching the central area. Rather, he was thrilled about what he had gained in the darkness.

Never in his dreams had he thought that he would find a Secret Technique hidden in the darkness.

The sword trajectories he had employed to defend the 32 targeted points was profound. It was even more astounding than an advanced combat technique.

Shi Feng had realized how frightening this Secret Technique was as he had continued to improve his swords' trajectories. If he could grasp this sword trajectory, his swordsmanship might even surpass Sirius's six-in-one combination attack.

“Not bad, young man. It’s been a long time since someone’s reached this area.” Shortly after Shi Feng had sat to rest, a figure appeared before him, praising Shi Feng.

Looking up, Shi Feng discovered Warren, the library manager who had disappeared.

“Since you’ve passed the test, follow me,” Warren said before turning and walking towards the massive water globe.

Hurriedly, Shi Feng rose from the floor and followed the manager.

Although dodging the needle attacks had taken its toll, he had not yet exceeded his mental endurance. He didn’t need to rest immediately as Bloodsucker had.

After reaching the transparent globe, Warren began to recite an incantation.

The massive globe slowly descended from the air. Despite standing over a dozen yards away, Shi Feng could feel the daunting Mana radiating from the globe. This Mana was far purer than that within the Seven Luminaries Crystal. Furthermore, the Mana that the globe released into the air did not scatter. If the globe exploded, Shi Feng did not doubt that the explosion would obliterate the Titan Library.

“Go on. This is where the most precious Skills the Titan Library has collected over the years have been contained,” Warren urged. “Of course, you may also llenge the library’s core, but be warned; throughout the past several hundred years, only seven have reached the core and left to tell the tale.”

“Lord Warren, I’ve decided to choose a Skill Book here,” Shi Feng declared without hesitation.

He had been lucky to reach the central area.

As for whether that luck would carry him to the core, Shi Feng did not even dare to wonder.

As far as he knew, only five players had entered the Titan Library's core in the past. Every single one of those players had been a Tier 6 God-ranked expert. With his current strength, his chances were close to, if not, non-existent.

In all honesty, Shi Feng had considered trying. Unfortunately, his time was running out.

On the off chance that he overextended his mental endurance and was forced to log out to rest, he might even drown in his regrets.

"A wise decision." Warren nodded pleasantly. "The magic barriers inside the Titan Library are the blood and sweat of the ten saints. That is especially the case for the magic barrier that protects the core. Without standing in the same realm as the ten saints, challengers have no chance of success. Had you attempted to challenge the barrier, you would've been disqualified."

"...!" Shi Feng rolled his eyes at the manager. "You're only telling me that now?"

Following which, Shi Feng disappeared into the massive water globe.

Upon entering the globe, a list of books appeared before Shi Feng. Every Skill Book listed was either a Tier 5 Skill or a Tier 4 Sure-kill Skill; the list contained hundreds of them.

Shi Feng's eyes drifted to the Tier 4 Sure-kill Skills without even glancing at the Tier 5 Skill Books.

Although Tier 5 Skills were much stronger than Tier 4 Sure-kill Skills, one could only learn the former after reaching Tier 5. To his present self, a Tier 5 Skill Book would be as useless as a very expensive paperweight. It was not nearly as practical as a Tier 4 Sure-kill Skill.

There were a total of 133 Tier 4 Sure-kill Skill Books on the list, and Shi Feng rejoiced at the sight.

If he could learn them all, every Tier 4 player would be no more than a punching bag.

There was a wide variety of Skills to choose from. Some were Single-target Skills like Flame Burst, while others were AOE Skills like Skywheel Sword. There were also Control Skills like Abyssal Bind and Abyssal Curse. There were even extremely precious Berserk Skills and Support Skills. These Skills covered nearly every aspect and were more than enough for players to compensate for their shortcomings.

After much contemplation, Shi Feng decided to search through the AOE Skills.

While Single-target Skills and Berserk Skills could elevate a player's combat power tremendously, AOE Skills were far more effective in group battles and grinding.

Shi Feng was currently in a rush to reach Level 50. An AOE Skill was, without a doubt, his best choice.

There were a total of five AOE Attack Skills. Some dealt physical damage, while other dealt magical damage. Some even dealt a mix of each.

“Having both would be the best choice.” Shi Feng dismissed the first two varieties.

While the pros of a physical or magical Skill were obvious, the cons were just as clear. If he encountered a monster that countered either type of damage, the Skill would lose its effectiveness. Take Firestorm for example. If he used the Skill against a fire-type monster or an Elemental Being, the Skill wouldn't help him. Rather than risk such a specialized Skill, it was safer to pick one that dealt both types of damage.

After excluding the specialized Skills, Shi Feng was left with two books.

The first book contained the Skill Divine Punishment. When activated, the Skill dealt a combination of physical and holy damage to monsters in a targeted area. The Skill covered 20 yards in every direction and had a Cooldown of 10 minutes.

The other Skill was Lightning Edge. Upon activation, it would deal a mix of physical and lightning damage to monsters in a cone. The Skill had an initial coverage of 30 yards and a Cooldown of 15 minutes.

Countless players in God's Domain dreamed of obtaining both Skill Books.

Shi Feng found himself in a bit of a bind.

Holy damage would be twice as effective against Dark Creatures. In addition to his Sacred Sword, he would be a nightmare to Dark Creatures if he chose Divine Punishment. The only downside was the Skill's limited range.

As for Lightning Edge, it was suitable for kiting monsters.

Noticing that he was running out of time...

After a moment of hesitation, Shi Feng chose Lightning Edge.

He had chosen this to help him level faster.

Following which, Shi Feng clicked to learn Lightning Edge. As soon as he did, a stream of energy emerged from the water around him and surged into his body.

System: Congratulations! You have learned Lightning Edge.

[Lightning Edge] (Action-type) Tier 0, Level 1 (Requires 200,000 EXP to upgrade to Tier 0, Level 2) nneling time: 0.5 seconds Deals 300% physical and 300% lightning damage in a cone in front of user. Initial coverage range is 30 yards. Duration: 3 seconds Cooldown: 15 minutes

As expected of a Tier 4 Sure-kill Skill. Its starting damage and required EXP are double that of Flame Burst's. *If it reaches Tier 1, it will likely be even stronger than Firestorm.* Shi Feng was elated when he saw the Skill's information. He immediately decided to upgrade Lightning Edge's level.

chapter 937: Team Improves

Shi Feng was currently Level 43. However, even after upgrading Lightning Edge to Tier 1, Level 1, he remained at Level 43.

However, upon reaching Tier 1, the required EXP to upgrade the Skill and the Skill's might had undergone a qualitative change.

[Lightning Edge] (Action-type) Tier 1, Level 1 (Requires 200,000,000 EXP to upgrade to Tier 1, Level 2)
Channeling time: 0.5 seconds Deals 700% physical and 700% lightning damage in a cone in front of user.
Initial coverage range is 50 yards. Duration: 5 seconds Cooldown: 10 minutes

Shi Feng had intended to upgrade the Skill further. Unfortunately, doing so would drop him to Level 42, which would, in turn, decrease his overall Attributes and affect his performance when they attempted the entrance trial's final stretch. Hence, he decided to hold off for now.

After Shi Feng learned Lightning Edge, Warren transported him out of the library, returning him to the entrance.

Everyone else from Zero Wing's team who had entered the library had already learned a Skill or Spell and already returned to the entrance. They all looked ecstatic.

The number of Skills and Spells the Titan Library contained was simply mind-blowing, and their rarity was equally staggering. Despite most of the players only being capable of choosing a Skill from the outer area, they had still boosted their combat powers significantly.

“Look at how excited you all are. What kind of powerful Skills did you guys learn?” Shi Feng asked, a soft chuckle escaping from his lips.

“Leader, did you know that Sister Aqua reached the inner area? She learned a large-scale destruction Spell. Violet did as well and learned an AOE Healing Spell. As for Sister Fire, although she didn’t learn an AOE Skill from the inner area, she learned a powerful control and weakening Skill. Even a Boss won’t be able to shrug off the Skill’s effects!” Cola enthusiastically explained.

The Skills one could learn in the outer and inner areas were worlds apart.

In the outer area, one could only learn rare Tier 2 Skills, while in the inner area, one could learn Tier 3 Sure-kill Skills. There was simply no comparing the two.

Furthermore, the Skills Aqua Rose and the others had learned in the inner area would be of immense help to their current team. It was especially true for Violet Cloud’s AOE Healing Spell.

At present, all Skills the various healing classes could learn were single-target Healing Spells. There was not a single AOE Healing Spell available for their low Tier. Now that Violet Cloud had learned one, she could act as multiple healers. When they raided Dungeons in the future, they could afford to bring fewer healers and more damage-dealers.

Excluding Shi Feng, fourteen people had reached the Library’s inner area.

Among them, three belonged to Zero Wing, three belonged to Raven, five belonged to Owl, and three belonged to Overwhelming Smile.

This outcome stunned Zero Wing's members.

While Aqua Rose and the others, more or less, knew the identities of Raven's members, Owl's members were complete strangers, yet among the team of fourteen players, five had reached the inner area. The small team's strength was astounding.

Where did the Guild Leader meet these people? Aqua Rose was deeply shocked as she watched White Night and his companions. There are so many experts in just a team of fourteen people.

After the team's performance in the Titan Library, Aqua Rose finally understood how strong White Night and the others were.

As for Youlan, who rested by the side, her expression suggested that she had finally come to understand the Guild known as Zero Wing.

She knew how difficult it was to venture from the outer area to the inner area. Even after trying her hardest, she barely broke through the barrier. As for the other two players on her team who had reached the inner area, they were War Wolf and Soaring Snake. Everyone else had only made it to the 80-yard mark.

Although she did not know how far Shi Feng had progressed, reaching the inner area should have been a walk in the park for him. With this, of Zero Wing's fifty people, twelve had managed to reach the inner area. The team's strength was intimidating. Youlan even suspected that, even if she scoured Star-Moon Kingdom and combined the strength of every Guild within its borders, she wouldn't form a team as powerful as Zero Wing's.

“Since everyone has gathered, let’s proceed to the trial’s final stage,” Shi Feng declared after confirming that everyone was present. He then led the team to a teleportation array a short distance away from the Titan Library.

—

“Be careful! Healers, focus on those who are taking damage! MTs, hold down the monsters! Do not let them get away!” Peerless, who ventured through the gray fog, sternly commanded his people through the team.

Initially, he had thought he would be welcomed by the sight of Titan City’s gates upon overcoming the abyssal path. However, he had never imagined that they would escape the wolf’s lair only to walk straight into a lion’s den.

Inside this gray fog, their visibility was reduced to ten yards. In addition, monsters would randomly assault them from time to time.

To make matters worse, the fog did not affect these monsters. Even with forty yards between them, these monsters discovered them and attacked immediately. These monsters attacked with bows and arrows, and after firing a volley, they would change their positions. Moreover, the monsters always targeted the cloth armor classes.

If they did not defeat these archers as quickly as possible, the noise of battle would attract more enemies. Before realizing this, their team had suffered. Moreover, the players whom these monsters killed could not be revived. Their losses in this gray fog were permanent.

They only had 89 players remaining now. If they lost any more members, their hopes of reaching the final goal would be dashed.

Shortly after Peerless issued his orders, another volley emerged from the fog around them.

The arrows were extremely fast. With the low visibility, even the Agility-based classes struggled to block or evade the attacks, not to mention the targeted cloth wearers.

Immediately, a white-robed Cleric transformed into a hedgehog, his HP plummeting to zero in an instant. The Cleric did not even have a chance to heal himself.

“Rage! Don’t let those monsters get away!” Peerless bellowed in rage.

Over a dozen melee classes immediately dashed towards the arrow’s origin.

Shortly after these players vanished, however, the others heard a pained scream. A few of these melee players had died instantly. Three MTs had even been thrown back to the team, their slamming into the ground before Peerless. All three MTs only had a strand of HP.

“What happened?!” Peerless demanded through the team chat.

The monsters they had previously faced had only been Level 45 Elites. Every one of these players could easily dispatch one of the monsters with help, yet not only had a few people instantly died, but their heavily-armored MTs had also been thrown such a long distance. There was definitely something off here.

“Boss... It’s a Boss!” one of the Swordsmen, who had previously rged forward, stuttered a reply. “Wait... There are three—”

Before the Swordsman could finish his words, his name in the team status window faded to gray, signifying that this player had died.

However, the Swordsman wasn’t the only one dead player. Those who had rged with him had died as well.

Before Peerless could respond, three tall figures suddenly emerged from the fog accompanied by over a hundred bow-wielding, four-armed demonic monsters.

Every player on the team tensed, feeling stifled.

Of the three Bosses before them, one was a Grand Lord, while the other two were Great Lords. With this combination before them, the players crumbled in despair.

As the two sides threw themselves into the battle, a golden radiance suddenly dispersed the dense fog. People then began to appear, one after another.

“How!?” Peerless’s jaw nearly hit the ground when he saw the distant figures.

These figures were none other than the members of Shi Feng’s team, who he had seen before. However, unlike their battered players, Shi Feng’s team appeared unharmed, every member brimming with energy as they stood on the path towards Titan City.

chapter 938 – Pantheon

As the golden light appeared, it returned visibility to the foggy valley.

Shi Feng and his team's sudden arrival left Peerless's team speechless.

How are they here?

This question echoed in everyone's minds. It was an irrefutable fact that they had progressed through the third stage faster and more successful than they had during their previous attempt, yet Shi Feng's team had still managed to get ahead of them.

The most infuriating part was that, now that they had aggroed the three Bosses, Shi Feng's team could simply head up the mountain and reach Titan City without issues.

However, before Peerless and his team could figure out what they should do next, the three Bosses rged at them.

[Three-headed Demonic Ape King] (Dark Creature, Grand Lord)

Level 45

HP 70,000,000/70,000,000

[Two-headed Demonic Ape] (Dark Creature, Great Lord)

Level 45

HP 30,000,000/30,000,000

Even a team of 1,000 elite players would have no hope against a Grand Lord and two Great Lords, much less a 100-man team.

Realizing how grim their situation was, Peerless clenched his jaw and commanded, "Activate the barrier! Everyone else, follow me!"

Fifteen players immediately gathered and began to form a magic barrier that trapped the three Bosses, preventing the monsters from pursuing the rest of their team. As they did so, Peerless his other members towards Shi Feng.

His intentions were obvious. He wanted to drag Shi Feng and his people into the fight, using the opportunity to escape.

—

“Leader, those people are heading towards us. It seems they’re trying to drag us down with them,” Aqua Rose giggled softly as she watched Peerless’s team rush towards them.

“Let’s get rid of them, lest they hinder us later.” Needless to say, Shi Feng also knew what Peerless and his team planned.

“Wait a minute; that is Peerless, one of Pantheon’s Elders!” Initially, Youlan had agreed with Shi Feng’s decision. However, upon taking a closer look and recognizing the other team’s leader as Peerless, she hesitated.

Pantheon was a Super Guild. Although Pantheon’s headquarters was nowhere near Star-Moon Kingdom and it couldn’t affect the kingdom’s affairs, a few of Underworld’s upper echelons had been buttering up the Super Guild.

If they killed Pantheon’s members now, a simple inquiry would reveal her as a member of Underworld. When that happened, she would invoke her upper echelons’ ire.

This was also why she was so desperately trying to strengthen her foundations. With a powerful team, her position in Underworld would not be at risk if she angered a few of the organization’s upper echelons.

“Will it inconvenience you?” Noticing Youlan’s hesitation, Shi Feng, more or less, understood how much influence a Super Guild had.

“It will impact the organization’s plans,” Youlan replied honestly. Feebly, she continued, “If Team Leader Ye Feng attacks that team, I’m afraid that my side can’t help.”

“That’s fine. You guys can stay here and watch.” Shi Feng dismissed Youlan’s concerns.

Following which, Shi Feng led his team to welcome Peerless and the others.

“Zero Wing sure is ruthless. They don’t even hesitate against a Super Guild.”

“It seems like the rumors of Zero Wing provoking King’s Return are true.”

Overwhelming Smile’s members watched with admiration.

Everyone had been dumbfounded when Zero Wing had provoked the Dragon-Phoenix Pavilion. Afterward, the Guild had picked a fight with King’s Return. Now, Zero Wing’s members had, without hesitation, decided to strike against Pantheon’s members. If they were any other first-rate Guild, they would have already cowered in fear...

The Titan City pass was extremely valuable. Based on how prepared Peerless and the other Pantheon members appeared to be, it was obvious how much the Super Guild valued the Holy City of Titan. If Shi Feng and his players killed Peerless’s team, Pantheon would undoubtedly hold a grudge against Zero Wing.

—

“Boss Peerless, those people are heading this way! From the looks of it, I think they’re trying to block our path!”

“Perfect. They’ve ruined my plans once already. Now, I’ll teach them to fear Pantheon! When the Bosses get here, head up the mountain!”

Joy fluttered in Peerless’s eyes as he watched Shi Feng’s team approach. Had Shi Feng led his team up the mountain, he would have escaped the looming disaster of the three Bosses. However, now that they were coming to him, he could use this nce to relieve some stress.

Both teams fell into formation and prepared for battle.

“Boss Peerless, I think I’ve seen those players before! The Swordsman leading the rge looks like Ye Feng from the Asura Battle Team!”

“Those are Zero Wing’s members!”

“Ye Feng? Didn’t he defeat that old monster from the Battle Wolves?”

When only 100 yards separated the two teams, Pantheon’s members realized who they were facing. Tension sang through them as they prepared for a gruesome battle, no longer taking this fight so lightly.

They also discovered something shocking: Shi Feng and his team’s Levels.

Every player was above Level 40, while some had even reached Level 43. It was impossible to find such a high-leveled team, even in God’s Domain’s empires.

As the teams grew closer...

Although Peerless's side had the numerical advantage, his team members' expressions were grim.

Previously, as both teams had been too far from each other, they hadn't noticed anything special about Zero Wing's team. However, as they closed the distance, fear began to grip their hearts. Shi Feng, White Night, Fire Dance, and a few others leading the team, in particular, radiated an even stronger pressure than a Lord.

Why do they have so many experts? Peerless frowned, shock filling his gaze.

Among Zero Wing's 50-man team, at least nine of them felt threatening. Of the nine, he trembled in fear as the pressure of four specific players swept over him. He even began to wonder if he were facing another Super Guild's raid team. Why else would there be so many experts on a single team?

"I am Peerless, an Elder from Pantheon. You must be Elder Ye Feng from Zero Wing, correct? Why don't we work together to defeat the Bosses?" Peerless shouted his suggestion as he watched Shi Feng.

Although he was arrogant, he knew when the odds were against him. His current team stood no chance against Shi Feng's people.

If his team were annihilated now, they would lose their third chance of reaching Titan City. There was also no telling when their Guild would obtain another pass, either. He did not wish to watch his hard-earned opportunity go to waste over a little squabble.

Peerless's suggestion surprised Youlan and Overwhelming Smile's members...

“Am I hearing things? Pantheon’s members are actually suggesting that we cooperate?”

“I have heard that Peerless is a particularly arrogant Elder in Pantheon. Not only does he lack respect for Guild Leaders from first-rate Guilds, but he has also insulted them publicly! I must’ve misheard him!”

A commotion swept over Overwhelming Smile’s members.

Super Guilds were the virtual gaming world’s overlords. Normally, people would do everything they could to gain their favor, yet they rarely expressed goodwill. Suggesting cooperation was even more unlikely.

Peerless and the others had already prepared to fight. However, they had suddenly suggested that the two teams work together. Even if news of this spread, no one would believe it.

chapter 939: Unfathomable Zero Wing

Peerless’s sudden suggestion had stunned not only Youlan and her group, but it had also surprised Zero Wing’s Vice-Leader, Aqua Rose.

Aqua Rose had to admit that Peerless’s suggestion was tempting.

Both Pantheon and Zero Wing's teams would struggle to take down three Level 45 Bosses simultaneously. If not dealt with properly, a team-wipe would not be surprising.

If the two teams joined hands, however, their chances of defeating the three Bosses would increase tremendously.

Although Aqua Rose was not at all familiar with the strength of Pantheon's team, the fact that they had made it this far proved that it should not be underestimated.

Peerless also firmly believed that his proposal would interest Shi Feng.

After all, the team's ultimate goal was to enter Titan City. Moreover, more than one team could reach the Holy City as long as they cleared the entrance trial. There was no conflict between them in terms of profit.

Moreover, befriending a Super Guild was far more beneficial than creating a new enemy.

However, Shi Feng replied with three, indifferent words.

"No, thank you!"

After responding, Shi Feng swung Killing Ray.

Lightning Edge!

After reaching Tier 1, Lightning Edge's range had extended to a maximum of 50 yards. The damage spread could envelop over half of Peerless's team.

Strike after strike of blue lightning arced towards Pantheon's members.

Shi Feng's Attributes were already exceptional. Even Cola could only endure a few of his normal attacks.

In the blink of an eye, the lifeless bodies of over half of Peerless's team members fell to the ground. Even the MTs, who had activated their Lifesaving Skills, had lost their lives. Only those who had been outside of Lightning Edge's attack range and those who possessed Skills that provided a brief invulnerability had escaped with their lives. However, these players were only a minority of Peerless's team.

After Lightning Edge ended, less than ten players remained standing on Peerless's side.

Lightning Edge was in no way weaker than a Boss's team-wipe Skill.

"What is he doing?" Youlan was flabbergasted.

Initially, she had agreed with the proposed cooperation. Not only would this eliminate the possibility of earning Pantheon's ire, but they might also have the chance to form a friendship with the Super Guild. Both she and Zero Wing would benefit greatly from an amicable relationship with Pantheon. Furthermore, their chances of clearing the entrance trial would increase.

Yet, Shi Feng had rejected the offer. Moreover, he annihilated the majority of Pantheon's members without a second thought.

Youlan even began to wonder if Shi Feng had some sort of unresolvable grudge against Pantheon.

Shi Feng's actions had even stunned Aqua Rose. Bloodsucker was gobsmacked as well.

No matter what was said or done, these people were still Pantheon members, yet Shi Feng had killed them without any hesitation. Shi Feng's decisiveness to kill another player even made a Dark Player like Bloodsucker involuntarily tremble.

He was now even more afraid of Shi Feng than he was of a bloodthirsty killer such as himself!

However, Shi Feng did not bother to explain his decision. Or rather, he could not.

Only the first team to enter the Holy City of Titan would be awarded Reputation. He would not give up the guarantee of gaining the Holy City's Reputation just to gain a dispensable partner, not to mention a partner that had initially planned to use his team to distract the Bosses.

In God's Domain, only one's strength mattered. Everything else was secondary.

"I'll butcher you!" A vein popped in Peerless's eyes when he saw his dead companions. If hatred were tangible, he would've drowned Shi Feng. These players were the capital he needed to clear the entrance trial. Now, Shi Feng had annihilated them. Peerless then activated his Berserk Skill. He raised his silver greatsword and roared at Shi Feng.

However, before Peerless, whose body had grown slightly, could reach Shi Feng, a figure appeared between them and forcibly stopped the Berserker's rge. This person was none other than the Guardian Knight Turtledove.

"Scram!"

Peerless boiled with rage. He swore to himself that he would fight Shi Feng to the end. Without hesitation, he sent a horizontal slash at the Guardian Knight in his way, intending to take advantage of his enhanced Strength to send Turtledove flying.

In response to the vicious attack, Turtledove swung her longsword to meet the Berserker's blade, activating Steel Impact before the two weapons collided.

Peng!

The counterattack sent Peerless flying ten yards away. It had also forced him into a Fainted state. His 26,600 HP dropped by more than 3,000 as well. Turtledove's immense Strength stunned Pantheon's members.

They all knew just how powerful Peerless was.

Although he could not compare to the Battle Wolves' Sirius, he was one of Pantheon's apex experts who had reached the Void Realm. He even wore a piece of Epic Equipment, while the rest of his gear consisted of Level 40 Dark-Gold Equipment. In terms of Basic Attributes, few people were capable of matching the Berserker.

The Berserk Skill Peerless had activated also boosted his Strength, Agility, and Endurance. In this state, he could even stand against a High Lord of the same level without giving way, yet a tall, slender female Guardian Knight had sent him flying. Their shock was indescribable.

“Boss Peerless, I’ll help you!” A Level 40 burly Assassin dashed forward to assist Peerless, who had removed the Control effect plaguing him as soon as he had received it.

However, before this Level 40 Assassin could reach the Berserker, numerous arrows flew towards him, forcing him to block the attacks. His actions, however, broke his Stealth.

Isn’t that Pantheon’s Three Tigers? Why is he here? Youlan was surprised upon seeing the Assassin. It seems Pantheon really wants into Titan City. After this incident, Zero Wing and Pantheon will definitely be mortal enemies.

The exposed Assassin was Three Tigers, an apex expert from Pantheon. He was also the Super Guild’s fifth-ranked Assassin. His attacks were famed for their violence. Others often called him the Man-slaughtering Tiger.

However, the instant the Man-slaughtering Tiger was exposed, he felt death loom over him. Hastily, he used Wind Steps and threw himself to the ground. Unknown to him, the sharp blade of a short sword had sliced across his back. If not for the brief invulnerability that his Skill provided, the blade would’ve ripped through his body.

What is that style of footwork?! Even so close, I didn’t detect her at all! Three Tigers felt his body grow cold when his gaze fell on Fire Dance, who had appeared behind him suddenly. If not for his ability to exert his five senses to their limits, which allowed him to sense the subtle fluctuations in the air as Fire Dance launched her attack, he would’ve fallen prey to the female Assassin’s attack.

As expected, my Void Steps are still rough and crude. Fire Dance inwardly berated herself after Three Tigers dodged her blade.

After evading Fire Dance's ambush, Three Tigers discovered an incoming volley. White Night had fired these arrows and did so from the male Assassin's blindspot. As a result, Three Tigers didn't notice them until it was too late.

Damn it! Why are there so many experts?! Three Tigers instinctively activated Vanish, repelling the arrows and remaining unharmed.

He had just been forced to use two of his major Lifesaving Skills in a row. Three Tigers had never experienced a situation like this since he had joined God's Domain.

However, shortly after Three Tigers vanished, he discovered that he could not move. Before he realized it, pitch-black walls rose from the ground and surrounding him.

This attack was none other than Violet Cloud's Black Coffin, and she had timed the spell to activate just after Vanish's 1.3 seconds of invulnerability had ended...

chapter 940: Hell's Gatekeepers

Despite the fact that Three Tigers was a top-tier Assassin from a Super Guild, he could not think of an appropriate response to the seamless combination attack.

Only when the Black Coffin began to close did Three Tigers activate a Control Removal Skill.

Unfortunately, the half-second delay before he made a decision was more than enough time for Fire Dance to catch up to him, executing Absolute Strike.

Suddenly, Fire Dance transformed into a shadowy streak that pierced through the male Assassin's body.

With little effort, Fire Dance, Violet Cloud, and White Night had taken out a Super Guild's top-tier Assassin. The surviving Pantheon members were stunned.

Three Tigers was in no way weaker than Peerless. The Assassin could move about unhindered even against hundreds of elite players and dozens of experts. In a large-scale war, he could even take the enemy commander's life while surrounded by thousands of enemies.

Yet, now, the combination attack of three people had killed him almost instantly.

"Their cooperation is seamless. Without Skills that provide invulnerability, there is simply no escaping that attack." War Wolf sighed as he watched this scene play out. "The difference between the two team's experts is massive. Pantheon doesn't have a nce."

As a matter of fact, War Wolf knew that, even without Violet Cloud and White Night, Fire Dance alone could render Three Tigers helpless.

Although Fire Dance was an Assassin, her Attributes were outrageous. Moreover, only MTs could block the female Assassin's mystifying attacks with their shields. Other classes had no hope of blocking or dodging her attacks. Their only option was to maintain a distance from the Assassin. Letting her get close was the equivalent of welcoming death into their homes.

Youlan nodded her agreement with War Wolf's evaluation.

While it might seem as if Peerless had an advantage after activating his Berserk Skill, Zero Wing's people had many of their own, terrifying Skills. After all, they had just come from the Titan Library. Youlan also understood just how powerful the Skills were in the library's outer and inner areas. Even five Berserked Peerless clones wouldn't be enough to nge this battle's outcome, let alone one.

As Youlan was lost in her thoughts, Shi Feng joined the battle.

The instant Shi Feng stepped forward, he vanished. In the blink of an eye, he appeared before Peerless, arcs of blue electricity coursing around his body. He then slashed his blade down on the Berserker.

Tier 2 Taboo Skill, Instant Strike!

"Die!" The instant Shi Feng appeared before him, Peerless sensed the Swordsman's presence. A grin appeared on his face as he executed Whirlwind Slash.

After watching Three Tigers die almost instantly, he had worried that Zero Wing's experts would pin him down and defeat him before he had the nce to confront Shi Feng. He had never imagined that the detestable Swordsman would come to him and without activating a Berserk Skill!

However, before Peerless's greatsword could accelerate, a blue streak of light bloomed from Shi Feng's hand.

In the next moment, a critical damage of -27,684 appeared above Peerless's head, the Berserker's HP plummeting to zero. Peerless did not even have a chance to realize what had happened before his vision faded to gray.

How is this possible?! As Peerless slowly fell to the ground, confusion filled his eyes as he stared at his body. A sword wound had appeared across his chest without his notice. The speed at which Shi Feng had drawn his sword had surpassed his perception.

When Peerless's body hit the ground, a piece of Level 40 Dark-Gold Equipment dropped beside him.

Shi Feng's attack had dumbfounded the remaining Pantheon members.

His sword strike had been way too fast.

Aside from a gradually fading blue glow, they saw nothing. That strike may have even killed someone with an Invulnerability Skill before they could deploy it.

After Peerless died, Shi Feng went after the remaining members, too lazy to pick up the equipment the Berserker had dropped.

By the time Pantheon's members realized what was going on, Shi Feng had darted past them all, and they were already falling to the ground, one after another. Without suspense, Shi Feng had killed everyone.

Instant Strike was as strong as a Tier 3 Skill. Even if they activated Berserk Skills that doubled their Attributes, current players were nothing against this Skill.

“Pick up the loot and prepare to face the monsters!” Shi Feng commanded upon noticing the three Bosses breaking free from their distant imprisonment.

Although one could clear the entrance trial without defeating the three Stage Bosses, Shi Feng had decided that defeating them was necessary.

Like the second stage’s Boss, they might earn an unexpected reward for the First Kill of these three Bosses.

As for why he had killed Pantheon’s members without a second thought, he had worried that these people would run for the city half-way through the Boss battle. Should that have happened, all of the regret in the world wouldn’t have given him his Titan City Reputation back.

Moreover, had they cooperated with Pantheon, they would have had to share the Bosses’ loot equally. Since his team was more than capable of defeating the Bosses by themselves, why should they share the bounty?

...

After the three Bosses had annihilated the Pantheon members that had trapped them, they shifted their gaze towards Shi Feng’s team. Roaring angrily, the three Bosses, followed by over a hundred four-armed demonic monsters, rged forward.

“Cola, tank the Ape King! Wumian and Turtledove, separate the other two Apes! The farther, the better! The rest of the MTs will pin the demonic monsters down! Don’t let them get away! Everyone else, kill the demonic monsters first!” Shi Feng shouted. These Bosses’ powerful auras didn’t affect him in the slightest.

The team immediately did as Shi Feng had ordered. Youlan cast Angel’s Blessing, increasing everyone’s Attributes slightly and decreasing the damage they received. Shi Feng also summoned the Demonic Flame Tiger and had it cast Battle Roar and Darkness Blessing, increasing everyone’s Attributes by an additional 10% and reducing the damage they took by another 20%. The team also received a 100-point boost to their Magic Resistance. These buffs immediately rose the team’s strength to a whole new level.

When Cola was within range, he executed Justice Bash and attracted the Three-headed Demonic Ape King’s attention. Ye Wumian and Turtledove lured the Two-headed Demonic Apes away from each other as well.

However, the Demonic Apes had absurdly high Strength. This was especially true for the Ape King. Although the Grand Lord was not an Aric Species, it still dealt over -10,000 damage to Cola despite the Guardian Knight’s multiple damage reduction buffs. As for Ye Wumian and Turtledove, they each took over -6,000 damage when the Great Lords hit them.

Generally, players who had reached the third stage avoided fighting the three Demonic Apes. After all, like the second stage’s King of Corrosion, killing them wasn’t necessary to clear the entrance trial. Teams were simply not willing to take this risk.

Moreover, in the past, the three Demonic Apes had been known as Hell’s Gatekeepers. Most teams that had reached this far would avoid them as much as possible.

This was due to the three Demonic Apes’ special ability.

In reality, the three Demonic Apes were actually of one body. Although they were neither Ferocious Beasts nor Aric Species, they were still a nightmare for players.

When one Demonic Ape died, its strength would transfer to the remaining Demonic Apes. When only one Demonic Ape remained, the gates of hell would truly open. No team could survive the Boss's devastating power. Even if Shi Feng activated Twofold Berserk, he could do nothing about his impending death.

Hence, the only way to defeat the three Stage Bosses was to kill them simultaneously.

If the last Demonic Ape even had 1% HP remaining, it would massacre the entire team.

However, a team needed powerful MTs, and healers in particular, if they wanted to kill all three Demonic Apes at the same time. From time to time, the three Demonic Apes used an AOE Skill. Every player on the team would lose HP when they did. These moments would put the team's healers to the test.

If too many members died, it would wound their overall damage output. All three Demonic Apes possessed extremely high HP, so their battle recoveries were not to be trifled with. If the team could not maintain their damage above a certain threshold, a team-wipe was inevitable.

If not for Violet Cloud's new AOE Healing Spell, Shi Feng would not have dared to fight the three Demonic Apes.

As the battle raged, time passed quickly. By the time everyone finished dealing with the four-armed demonic monsters, Cola was close to succumbing to the Ape King's might. Although the Guardian Knight could easily deal with the Ape King's ordinary attacks, his roughly 30,000 HP would drop to just over

10,000 when the Grand Lord used its War Stomp. The Skill also forced him into a Fainted state. If not for a powerful healer like Violet Cloud, the Ape King's next hit would have likely killed him.

As Cola wavered, the rest of the team worried. If he died, it would not be long before the rest of them followed him to the grave.

As expected, this will be a tough fight without Berserk Skills. Shi Feng felt somewhat powerless. Previously, to deal with the King of Corrosion, their team had nearly exhausted their Berserk Skills. Now, the Skills were still on Cooldown. "Fire, it's up to you now."

"Leave it to me," Fire Dance said as she playfully licked her lips. She had long since grown impatient and was incredibly eager to test the new Tier 3 Sure-kill Skill she had learned in the Titan Library.