

## 48 Hours 1181

### Chapter 1181: That Was A Good Suggestion

“Simon?” Mouse couldn’t understand what the doctor’s current state had to do with Simon. Previously, both parties had gone their separate ways. Simon stayed with them in Pripjat to continue the investigation while the doctor left with the maintenance worker. Although he sympathized with the doctor’s current state, no matter how he looked at it, he could not place the blame on Simon.

“It seems that your condition has been deteriorating.” The doctor wasn’t in a hurry to explain. Instead, he first looked around. His gaze swept past the teenager’s swollen arm and Mouse’s legs. Then, there was also Master Kui’s slightly pale face.

“What is that supposed to mean?” Master Kui’s expression changed.

“Do you still remember what I said? With Coconut’s condition back at the nuclear power plant, she shouldn’t have deteriorated so quickly. Even if her palm came into contact with the graphite on the ground, it only took less than a day for her from passing out from a high fever to almost losing her life. Such rapid progression does not conform to medical knowledge at all.”

“You suspect that someone could’ve done something to her?”

“The first person who found out that something was wrong with her that night was Simon,” the doctor said coldly.

The teenager shook his head. “But that doesn’t mean that Simon did something to her. Besides, Simon isn’t some omnipotent God. How could he aggravate Coconut’s condition?”

“It’s graphite.”

“What?”

“I’m answering your question. How did he aggravate Coconut’s condition? Because he secretly placed the graphite core next to her.”

“Do you know what you’re saying?” Kui asked.

“Of course, because he treated me and the maintenance man the same way. He warned us not to leave Pripjat, but we didn’t listen to him. So before he left, he put a piece of graphite in our backpacks,” the doctor cried in grief and indignation, “We only found out two days later that the maintenance man had been carrying that bag the whole time. When we arrived at the hospital, he was directly sent to the emergency room... and you saw my situation.

“I wasn’t hospitalized because I knew that since Simon would make a move on Coconut and us, and he would definitely not let you go. So, I rushed back to Pripjat overnight to warn you, but I didn’t know where you were, so I could only stay by Scherbina’s side and wait for you to come over.”

After the doctor had said what he wanted to say, the stairwell fell into silence.

The main reason for that was the explosive piece of news they received. Everyone had always thought that the deterioration of their physical condition was due to the radiation they had received, but they did not expect that a human factor could actually be involved.

Moreover, the players who dared to choose a single row were basically not fools. After careful consideration, they realized that the doctor's words were very credible. It was not just because of the two things he had said, but the most important thing was that up until now, only Simon had remained in relatively good physical condition.

If someone was really playing tricks in the dark, Simon was undoubtedly the most suspicious one among them.

However, the uniformed teenager still found it difficult to accept it. "Simon... why did he attack us? Even if you don't trust his character, isn't this dungeon a one-on-one mode? Players are teammates and not enemies."

"We'll have to ask him that," the doctor said.

Master Kui's mouth dropped open to say something.

"What do you want to say?" the youth asked.

"You all saw the post that Flo posted on Simon's behalf. Simon offered 200,000 points as a reward, but he clearly didn't have that many game points on him. He could only use a B-grade item as collateral," Master Kui said. "He's very short of points right now."

"Are you saying that he plans to kill us and steal our items to make up for a portion of his points?"

"You have to admit that it is indeed the fastest way to earn points."

"What about the main storyline quest? Up until now, we haven't had any leads. Doesn't that just lower his hopes of killing us and completing the main storyline quest?" Mouse said weakly.

"You're right. However, we don't have any leads. Perhaps he already knows how to complete the main storyline quest. That's why he's starting to deal with us. Once he kills all of us, he'll be able to complete the main storyline quest by himself. After that, he'll return with a full load," the doctor suggested.

As soon as he finished speaking, another voice came from upstairs.

"That's a good suggestion."

The players' faces darkened when they heard that because they recognized that it was Simon.

Zhang Heng slowly walked down the stairs from the third floor. He looked at the players who looked like they were about to face a great enemy, and then said to the doctor, "You played a good diversionary tactic."

"No, I can't compare to you," the doctor said with a sneer. "Who would've known that the great Simon is actually someone who plays a game of hide-and-seek on the surface?"

Zhang Heng shook his head. "I'll correct you on two points."

“What?”

“First, I don’t need to act in a superficial manner and hide behind the scenes. If I really had the intention to kill people and steal their items, then all the other players in this dungeon would not be able to stop me even if they joined forces.”

Zhang Heng did not purposely use a threatening tone in his words. He only said it in a normal tone, but everyone felt a strong sense of oppression. Even the doctor opened his mouth but failed to say anything in the end.

Simon had always been very easygoing and had kept a low profile in this dungeon. Whenever he took action, he would ask for everyone’s opinion in advance, never once using his position as the team leader to force anyone to do anything. After some time, everyone even forgot that he was the number one player that suppressed the experts of the three large guilds to take the number one spot on the leaderboard.

“Second,” Zhang Heng looked at the doctor and continued, “I sympathize with your plight, but unfortunately, you’ve found the wrong person.”

The doctor did not seem to believe Zhang Heng’s words. He said, “Let’s not talk about me and the maintenance worker for now. How are you going to explain the fact that everyone else’s condition is deteriorating at a faster rate than normal?”

“You may have picked the wrong person, but there is one thing that you’re right about. Someone is secretly increasing the amount of radiation we’re exposed to. However, that person is not me. As for why I’m in better condition than you guys, it’s just because I’m more alert.” Zhang Heng waved the thing in his hand.

“What’s this?”

“A portable radiation measuring device. I got it from a militia sprinkler earlier. The measuring range is very small, and the upper limit is only 3.6 roentgen. However, it’s enough to help me get through dangerous places and items,” Zhang Heng explained. “After Coconut was sent to the hospital, I took the meter back to her room. I found that the radiation in her room was indeed abnormal. In many places, my meter was off the charts. This means that someone planted a strong radiation source in her room.”

The uniformed boy was startled. “At that time, you asked me to go with you to snatch the clothes. Was it really to get the meter?”

### **Chapter 1182: Invisible Man**

“Are you trying to say that you weren’t the one who secretly placed the graphite in our backpacks?” The doctor pointed the gun at Zhang Heng.

“That’s right,” Zhang Heng said calmly.

“That’s impossible,” the doctor said firmly. “Everyone else’s health is deteriorating rapidly. If you weren’t the one who placed the graphite in our backpacks, then he would only be letting you off easy. This doesn’t make any sense.”

“That doesn’t make any sense,” Zhang Heng nodded.

Master Kui and the other players were surprised. They didn't expect Zhang Heng to admit it so readily. Zhang Heng continued, "Unless... the person who secretly put the graphite in your bag isn't a player."

"Not a player... What do you mean?" Mouse was confused.

The doctor said, "After we split up, the maintenance man and I drove away from Pripjat. We were cautious along the way and tried not to interact with outsiders. I'm sure no one touched our bag during this period, so the graphite was in our bag before we split up. At that time, all of us were together. Other than our own people, it was impossible for anyone to slip something into our bag without us knowing unless that person was completely invisible."

Zhang Heng ignored the doctor's final taunt and asked, "Do you still remember the name of this dungeon?"

"Invisible Killer? What's wrong with that? Didn't we already conclude that the invisible killer refers to nuclear radiation?" Grandpa Kui said.

"Nuclear radiation does indeed fit the definition of an invisible killer. Furthermore, we encountered a nuclear explosion as soon as we entered the dungeon, so it's instinctive to think in this direction. At first, I tried to find an answer in this direction, and I followed the steps to investigate the cause of the accident, but in the end... As you can see, the main mission hasn't changed at all."

"Then what else can the invisible killer refer to?" The young man asked.

"Nothing, just the literal meaning," Zhang Heng said. "The background of this dungeon has been deliberately misleading us, making the whole thing complicated."

"The literal meaning? Don't tell me you really think an invisible killer is lurking around us?" Mouse shivered and looked around with a panicked expression.

"Are you treating us like fools?" The doctor didn't fall for his trick at all. He laughed in anger. "Are you really going to push all this on an invisible man?"

Even the uniformed teenager, who had always supported Zhang Heng unconditionally, found the statement hard to accept. "An invisible man... It's a little too sci-fi."

"No, you've misunderstood me," Zhang Heng said. "The teacher who taught me assassin techniques once told me that the best way to disappear quickly in this world is to completely blend into the surrounding environment and become a part of it."

"So... for now, what's the fastest way to blend into the environment?" Master Kui asked.

"Pretend to be a player."

Zhang Heng replied calmly, "The dungeon's mode is single-player cooperative, which means that the players in the dungeon are all in a cooperative relationship. Although we can't rule out the possibility of some players killing others for their goods, overall, the relationship between the players in the single-player, cooperative dungeon is relatively harmonious. Furthermore, the background of this dungeon is the famous Chernobyl accident. From the first second of the game, the shadow of death has been looming over our heads, especially when we have no clue about the main storyline quest. It's almost impossible for us to suspect the companions around us."

Zhang Heng paused for a moment before continuing, "As I said before, this dungeon has been deliberately misleading us from the very beginning. When we first entered the dungeon, there were seven of us in the same room. When we realized that we were surrounded by players, we naturally assumed that all seven of us were players. This is a form of mental inertia."

"But after that, we introduced ourselves. At least I didn't find anything wrong with it. Even if the NPC in the dungeon could blend in with us, it would be difficult to imitate our tone and mannerism. Most importantly, it would be our understanding of the real world." Despite saying that, she began to think about the possibility.

"Of course, ordinary NPC can't, but someone can do it."

"Who?"

"The master behind this dungeon," Zhang Heng said calmly.

"The master behind this dungeon? Your story is getting more and more ridiculous," the doctor sneered. "I can't rule out the possibility that some gods will appear in the dungeon, but I've never heard of any gods personally participating in the game."

"Others may not, but I know someone who will. In fact, I'm not surprised at what he does," Zhang Heng said.

"Do you already know which God is behind this dungeon?" Grandpa Kui's eyes moved.

"That's right. Loki, the God of lies and tricks in Norse mythology, is the one hiding among us and playing tricks," Zhang Heng said. "This is very consistent with his style of doing things."

"You said the God behind this dungeon is Loki? Where's the evidence? So far, all we've heard is your nonsense," the doctor snapped rudely, clenching the TT-33 in his hand.

"The evidence is hidden in every corner of the dungeon. Although Loki has always appeared as a person who can ignore the rules and tease people everywhere, he can indeed break many restrictions. This is also the reason why this dungeon is so unique. However, according to my speculation, he still needs to follow some basic rules in the game. For example, he can't set up an unsolvable dungeon. He can increase its difficulty to a certain extent, but he also needs to leave the answer to the riddle."

"Where is the answer?" the boy asked.

"According to Norse mythology, Loki was an outstanding shapeshifter. He appeared in different stories as a seal, a salmon, a white mare, a fly, and an old woman named Sauk."

"A white mare? The one we met on the way to the hotel?" Mouse asked in surprise.

Zhang Heng nodded, "The old lady named Sauk lives in a small village not far from Pripyat. The building she lives in is taller than the average residential building because, in Norse mythology, she belongs to the giant tribe. Half of the other building has collapsed, corresponding to the cave she lives in in the story."

"The dolphin, is it the chain hanging on our car?" Master Kui quickly thought of the dolphin interior hanging on the rearview mirror of the Volga.

“If it’s salmon, it can’t be referring to the canned salmon that we stored, right?” Mouse’s ability to draw inferences from one example was also very strong.

### **Chapter 1183: The Truth Was Never Pleasant To The Ear**

“So you think the God behind this dungeon is Loki... that Loki?” the Doctor asked, bemused.

“Yes, and there has always been a view in the academic world that Loki is not only the god of lies and trickery but also the god of fire, which corresponds to the fire at Chernobyl,” Zhang Heng said.

To be honest, he had never expected that Loki would be the mastermind behind this dungeon. Although Zhang Heng and Loki had never met before, they had secretly crossed swords once thanks to the Jemengarde incident. It was then that Zhang Heng learned from Fan Meinan that Loki had also been targeting him for a long time.

Therefore, when he realized that he had entered Loki’s dungeon in this game round, Zhang Heng did not think it was a coincidence. As for the others, they could only say that they were unlucky to be involved in the dungeon that Loki had designed to deal with him.

The expression on the Doctor’s scary face kept changing. Obviously, he was also thinking about what Zhang Heng had just said. Although he didn’t want to, he had to admit that Zhang Heng’s speculation carried with it a certain degree of credibility. That was because not long ago, he and the maintenance man had also seen that mysterious white mare.

However, he did not move the TT-33 in his hand away from Zhang Heng’s chest. He only slightly pulled away from Mouse beside him.

“The god of lies and trickery is between us at this moment. This is not the explanation I want to hear,” the Doctor said.

“The truth is never pleasant to the ear,” Zhang Heng said.

After he said that, the atmosphere became more subtle.

Almost all the players present simultaneously assumed defensive positions because no one knew if Loki was standing right next to them.

This was Loki, not some ancient god that was about to be forgotten or a new god still in the learning and growth stage. He was a traditional god that had existed for thousands of years, was extremely powerful, and was still in the rising stage.

Any god was not easy to deal with, let alone Loki, infamous for his tricks and lies.

“According to you, Loki is the key person to be found in the main mission. If I put a bullet in each of your heads, will I be able to find out who Loki is and clear this dungeon?” the Doctor growled.

“I advise against it,” Zhang Heng said.

“Why? Loki is a god, and gods can’t be killed by mortals, right? So I’ll shoot you, and we’ll know the result very soon.” The Doctor loaded the pistol in his hand.

“Who told you that gods can’t be killed by mortals?” Zhang Heng said lightly. “I’ve killed more than one.”

“...”

“That’s good. If we kill Loki, all us players will be able to clear the level,” the Doctor said.

“Although gods aren’t impossible to kill, they’re not something you can kill with a TT-33,” Zhang Heng said. “You can’t kill me with this gun, so if I were you, I’d put the gun down. Loki would love for you to do that. He’s good at stirring up suspicions and disputes.”

The Doctor fell into a state of hesitation when he heard that. He saw the young man pull out the military dagger from his waist and throw it to his feet.

As usual, he was the first person to respond to Zhang Heng. He raised his hands to indicate that he did not have any other weapons, “Simon is right. Since we know that Loki is behind this dungeon, we can use peaceful means to find him among us.”

“I think so too,” Mouse agreed immediately. He quickly threw down the weapon in his hand as if throwing a hot potato.

But to everyone’s surprise, when it was Kui’s turn, she simply said, “I refuse.”

The Doctor immediately turned his gun and pointed at Kui.

“You’re Loki?”

“Did the radiation damage your brain? How do you know I’m Loki?” Kui said coldly.

“Then why are you objecting?” The Doctor said seriously. If Kui couldn’t give him a satisfactory explanation, he would pull the trigger without hesitation.

“We need to have a good talk, but we can’t abandon our weapons because we still need them to deal with Loki. Don’t forget that this is his dungeon. Even if we join forces, we might still be at a disadvantage,” Master Kui said.

“You have a point.” Mouse quickly picked up the weapon he had left behind. The young man in the uniform glanced at Zhang Heng. Seeing the latter nodding, he bent down to retrieve his military dagger.

The players looked at the Doctor, who thought for half a minute before finally putting away the pistol. However, he did not put the TT-33 into the holster. Instead, he kept the gun in his hand, pointing the muzzle at the ground.

“If you want to talk, then let’s talk. I’m not Loki. This is obvious. Otherwise, I wouldn’t have ended up in this state,” the Doctor said. “Then, after we separated, your bodies began deteriorating at an accelerated rate. This is enough to prove that I’m not the one who’s playing tricks in the dark.”

“Uh, don’t misunderstand. I’m not saying that you’re Loki,” Mouse said. “I’m just stating my own opinion. Everyone knows that Loki is an excellent shapeshifter, so he can completely disguise himself as someone who’s suffered from severe radiation exposure. In fact, apart from Simon, most of us don’t seem to be in good condition. As for the problem that our bodies deteriorated after you left... Although you said that you came back on the third day, we don’t know how long you’ve been gone. If you were Loki, you might not have left Pripjat at all and have been following us in secret.”

After the Doctor tried to prove his “innocence,” the boy in the uniform also spoke up.

“I’ve always admired Simon. He defeated the three guilds and that mysterious Beta and took first place on the scoreboard of the first round of the proxy war. After that, I began to collect all kinds of information about him on the forum. Because of that, I had quite a few verbal battles with the people from the three guilds. Master Kui said that my code name was a bit familiar. I think he must have seen the posts where I argued with other people on the forum. Of course, I know that Loki can also choose to pretend to be Simon’s fanboy, but he probably won’t have the time to spend on the forum like me,” the boy in the uniform mocked himself.

“Is it my turn next?” Mouse looked around and asked nervously, “I’m not Loki; there’s no doubt about that. Otherwise, Coconut wouldn’t have given me those [Whispers] before she was hospitalized. I mean, if I were the one who harmed her, she wouldn’t have trusted me so much.”

Editor’s note: All game items mentioned will now have a “[ ]” symbol in accordance with the original script.

#### Chapter 1184: Trickery

“Anything else?” The doctor played with TT-33, sizing up Mouse in front of him with an unfriendly expression, “Coconut gave you [Whispers], but who knows if it’s because you’re too good of an actor that you fooled her first. It seems that the possibility of you being Loki is even higher.”

Mouse was a little intimidated by the doctor’s stare, and the sweat on his forehead began to seep out. He tried hard to think of any other evidence that could prove that he was not Loki, but the more anxious he was, the more his mind went blank, and he could not think of anything. After a long while, he finally managed to say, “If I were really Loki, I wouldn’t be as easy to see through as it is for me. He is the god of lies and tricks, so his lies should be flawless.”

The doctor was stunned. He obviously did not expect Mouse to think in the opposite direction when he was cornered. According to him, the more unlikely it was for Loki to be Loki’s man, the more likely it was for him to be Loki’s man. So who was the most unlikely person to be Loki’s man now? The doctor thought about it and realized that it was him. He shouted angrily, “No nesting!”

But after Mouse said that, everyone realized that the problem seemed a little unsolvable. If they really played real-life werewolf, all the players combined wouldn’t be a match for Loki.

At that moment, Zhang Heng said, “I have an idea.”

“What idea?” The doctor asked.

“I have an item in my hand that can increase the damage of mythical creatures,” Zhang Heng said as he pulled out the [Hidden Scabbard] from his waist.

The doctor looked alarmed. “You’re not thinking of using this knife to cut us, are you?”

“It’s not that exaggerated. I just need to cut your fingers a little,” Zhang Heng said.

“What happens if you get cut?”



“Ordinary people will be fine, but supernatural creatures will continue to bleed,” Zhang Heng said. “This is the only way to find out which one of us is Loki.”

The doctor hesitated, but in the end, he shook his head and said, “I won’t let you cut my hand with an unknown game item.”

“It doesn’t matter. You can come last. We’ll cut first. If you find Loki in the middle, you won’t need to be cut. If you don’t, you won’t need to be cut either,” Zhang Heng said. He didn’t care whether the doctor agreed or not. He turned to ask, “Who wants to go first?”

The young man had always been Zhang Heng’s staunch supporter. This time, he didn’t disappoint Zhang Heng. Hearing this, he immediately reached out his hand. Zhang Heng used the [Hidden Scabbard] to gently slice the tip of his thumb.

Not long after, blood dripped from the wound. Zhang Heng tossed the young man a bag of cotton swabs, and the latter pulled one out to plug the wound.

The atmosphere at the scene also became tense. About half a minute later, the young man removed the cotton swabs and raised his injured thumb again.

The wound on his hand had already scabbed, and no more blood dripped out.

“Ha.” Zhang Heng raised his eyebrows.

“How is it? Does this count as passing the test?” Master Kui asked. She rolled up her sleeves. “It’s my turn now, right?”

“Okay, reach out.” Zhang Heng pressed his palm on the hilt of the [Hidden Scabbard] as he spoke. However, the next moment, something unexpected happened. Without warning, Zhang Heng suddenly exploded. The [Hidden Scabbard] left the scabbard with a flash of cold light and slashed toward the left at a speed untraceable to the naked eye.

The doctor was shocked by this sudden scene. He finally understood why Zhang Heng had said that a TT-33 would not be able to kill him. With the distance between them, the doctor might not have had the time to shoot. The [Hidden Scabbard] had already cut off his hand that was holding the gun.

Just like now, the Doctor waited for Zhang Heng’s blade to fall before he raised the pistol in his hand and pointed it at Zhang Heng again. “What is the meaning of this?”

Zhang Heng did not answer. He only looked at the young man in the uniform not far away.

His attack just now had been unexpected. The speed of the blade was extremely fast, and he had even used his sword techniques. However, the young man in the uniform that he targeted had dodged it. No, to be more precise, he almost dodged it.

Although the young man had dodged very quickly and displayed incredible speed in the moment of life and death, his opponent tonight was Zhang Heng, who had level 4 blade skills. The blade of the [Hidden Scabbard] cut through his clothes in the end, as well as the skin under his clothes, leaving a shallow wound on his chest.

The young man looked at Zhang Heng across from him with a strange expression on his face.

Most of the players were still in a daze. They didn't know why Zhang Heng would attack the young man, but Master Kui seemed to have thought of something. He quietly moved to stand next to Zhang Heng.

The young man lowered his head and thought for a moment, as if he didn't see the wound on his chest, "Your blade... has the ability to heal wounds, and it also has the ability to deal additional damage to mythical creatures. Yes, it's the feeling of powerlessness from the withdrawal of power."

Zhang Heng did not answer. He slowly made a starting position.

He did not dare to be careless when dealing with the famous evil god Loki. Zhang Heng actually had a tool on him that could be used to detect lies—[Vow Rings]. However, Zhang Heng did not need to take it out to know that this F-grade item would be useless against Loki, the god of lies, Loki.

Furthermore, considering the time Loki was born, he should be able to see the effect of the item in the player's hands with just a glance, except for the [Hidden Scabbard].

Although the [Hidden Scabbard] was born from the [Ordinary Knife], after being reforged, there was almost no similarity between it and the previous one. Other than its forger, only Zhang Heng and the bartender knew about the properties of this knife. Among them, the bartender was sure that after the incident with Jemengarde, she was intentionally trying to get close to Zhang Heng, but it definitely had nothing to do with Loki,

the forger who was hired for the reforging was also a person who kept his mouth shut, according to the bartender. Therefore, Zhang Heng was still inclined to believe that Loki did not know enough about this knife. But even so, Zhang Heng did not tell the truth completely.

He did not even hide the [Hidden Scabbard's] characteristics. He only classified the bleeding characteristic as a bonus damage to mythical creatures. It was precisely because of this that the teenager was subdued, or more accurately, it was Loki who took the bait in the end.

"What a brilliant trick." Loki did not seem to be angry. Instead, he praised, "But, how can you be sure that I'm willing to let you cut off my finger?"

"Because you're Loki, and you always think you're the smartest person in the room."

Chapter 1185: Mission Change

Before Zhang Heng could finish his sentence, the doctor, Master Kui, and the others received a system notification.

[Ding! Congratulations on completing the first phase of the main storyline mission—searching for key characters. Game Points: +100. You can go to the character panel to view relevant information...]

[Due to the completion of the first phase of the main storyline mission, the second phase of the main storyline mission has been automatically activated. Please confirm.]

[Main mission update...]

[Main mission has been updated. It has been changed to—kill Loki.]

[Will return after the main mission is completed...]

After hearing the new system notification, master Kui almost cursed out loud. How could they f\*cking play like this! They had clearly completed the main mission and could leave the dungeon, but they did not expect the system to go back on its word. Halfway through, it changed the main mission and forced all the players to stay in the dungeon.

Moreover, the content of this second phase of the main storyline mission was too ridiculous. What did it mean to kill Loki? If Loki was so easy to kill, the Nordic gods would not have been helpless against him for a long time. They had been watching him jumping up and down, causing trouble all over the world.

Loki's combat strength was not the strongest in Nordic mythology, but he was definitely the most difficult to kill.

The corners of Loki's mouth curled up slightly. His gaze swept across the entire scene, taking in all the expressions on the players' faces as if enjoying a play.

But the next moment, the smile on his face froze.

-LSB- warning! Warning! An unknown external force has been detected interfering with the game. The difficulty of the main mission is abnormal. Emergency response mechanism activated.]

[Emergency response mechanism activated...]

[The main mission has been modified and corrected. The main mission remains unchanged after killing Loki. The new mission restrictions are as follows. During the mission duration, Loki is not allowed to leave Pripyat. Killing the five great avatars of Loki will weaken Loki's strength. Within 12 hours, Loki is not allowed to attack players. Loki can choose a building in the city as his stronghold. After 12 hours, Loki will remain in the stronghold and can not move again.]

"Tsk... tsk... are you really going to treat me like the boss?"

A hint of playfulness flashed across Loki's face. "Alright, it's rare that I get the chance to exercise my muscles, so I'll play this game with you guys."

After saying that, he turned to look at Zhang Heng. He was about to say something to Zhang Heng before he left, but unexpectedly, Zhang Heng did not give him a chance at all. The next moment, [Hidden Scabbard] was already slashing at him. Loki snorted, without caring about his posture. He hurriedly rolled on the ground to dodge Zhang Heng's attack. The pride that he had worked so hard to bring up earlier was gone.

Zhang Heng didn't give up on chasing after him after missing his attack. Instead, he stuck close to rocky like a maggot on a tarsal bone. [Hidden Scabbard] kept colliding with the cement floor, making clanking sounds. Loki couldn't get up at all and could only roll like a rubber ball.

He kept rolling down.

"This is too much!" Loki was so angry that he almost got stabbed several times. Although he didn't know how he managed to stop the bleeding, it was clear that he was still quite afraid of the [Hidden Scabbard] in Zhang Heng's hands. Obviously, he didn't want to add another wound to his body. He could only keep yelling, "If you don't put away the knife, you'll regret it!"

Zhang Heng ignored Loki's threat. After hearing about the mission restriction, he realized that this was an opportunity. Besides killing the incarnation, which could weaken Loki's power, Zhang Heng also noticed the rule that Loki couldn't fight for 12 hours.

This rule was meant to give players time to kill the god. Zhang Heng, however, had used it to bypass the process of killing the god. It seemed that he wanted to kill Loki, who couldn't fight back, right here and now.

Furthermore, as Zhang Heng hacked, he called out, "What are you waiting for? Do it."

The players on the side finally came to their senses. Doctor Mang Liang raised the TT-33 in his hand and aimed at Loki, who was on the ground and pulled the trigger. The latter was now suppressed by the [Hidden Scabbard], so there was no other choice but to choose the lesser of two evils. He took the bullet in his lower abdomen.

Seeing that Master Kui and Mouse were also about to rush over to join the battle, Loki had no choice but to make up his mind. Gritting his teeth, he reached out his left hand and grabbed Zhang Heng's [Hidden Scabbard].

As expected, four of his fingers were directly cut off by Zhang Heng. However, at the cost of this, Loki finally bought some precious time. He reached out his other hand and snapped his fingers.

When the [Hidden Scabbard] fell down again, Loki had already disappeared from where he stood.

Zhang Heng pulled out the blade embedded in the wall. Hearing the sound of footsteps coming from above his head, he chased after him.

Due to the new rules, Loki could not attack players yet. Therefore, Zhang Heng did not have to worry about this being a trap. He ran straight up to the roof and saw Loki standing on the edge of the rooftop.

Loki did not seem to realize that he had been cornered. Stopping in his tracks, his face dark as if he had something to say to Zhang Heng.

Zhang Heng, who had caught up to him, took out the [Pestilence Bone Bow] on his back and put on the [Parris Arrow]. However, this time, Loki had learned his lesson. Before Zhang Heng could shoot the [Parris Arrow], he snapped his fingers and disappeared again.

And this time, he had completely disappeared. Zhang Heng looked around again, but there was no sign of Loki.

Zhang Heng was not disappointed. He knew that the god of lies and trickery would not be killed so easily, and the battle just now was not without meaning. Even if he could not kill Loki on the spot with the [Hidden Scabbard's] unique bleeding and damage bonus on mythical creatures, it would definitely be enough to make him suffer.

If he could kill five more of his avatars, it would further weaken Loki, and the final battle would increase the players' chances of winning.

Zhang Heng put the [Pestilence Bone Bow] back on his back. Just as he was about to go downstairs, he saw a militia truck driving toward him on the street in the distance.

“What’s going on?” At this time, Grandpa Kui also went up to the rooftop. She was in the second-best physical condition among the players, so she followed Zhang Heng up. Unfortunately, the battle ended before it even started. Nonetheless, Master Kui also noticed the two trucks.

Zhang Heng seemed to have thought of something, so he didn’t say anything. He just turned around and ran downstairs again. Along the way, he ran into the doctor and Mouse, who had rushed over. In the end, the two of them saw Zhang Heng running toward the room where Scherbina was on the third floor.

Zhang Heng directly knocked open the door and saw the vice president lying in a pool of blood in the living room. The vice president was no longer breathing, and even his body had cooled down. It looked like he had been dead for at least a day. Then, Zhang Heng noticed the flies surrounding Scherbina’s body.

“Close the door!” Zhang Heng screamed to Master Kui and the others.

#### Chapter 1186: The Fly

Just as the main storyline mission had changed, the players noticed that there was a countdown at the bottom right corner of the mission panel. It was exactly 12 hours, and three and a half minutes had already passed.

In other words, they had to deal with Loki’s five avatars in the remaining 11 hours and 56 and a half minutes. Only then would they be able to weaken Loki’s strength to the maximum.

This duration... was quite a tight one.

Mouse and the others were still thinking about where to start, but they didn’t expect Zhang Heng to have found Loki’s first avatar. They weren’t fools either. As soon as Zhang Heng reminded them to close the door, they immediately reacted.

—The Fly, one of the avatars of Loki in Norse mythology.

In the story of searching for the golden-haired man, Loki made a bet with the dwarf. In order to win the bet, he transformed into a fly and bit the dwarf, Brock’s hand when he pulled the bellows, but unfortunately, still lost the bet. But with Loki’s usual cunning, he escaped punishment in the end.

Kui was quick-witted. She closed the door before the first fly could fly out of the room. And this was not the end. He then used a towel to block the gap in the door. The others were not idle either. They followed suit. Someone had checked the windows, blocked the air-conditioning vent, making sure to leave all the flies in the room.

However, after all the preparation work was done, the two military trucks stopped downstairs at the Pripyat Hotel.

Zhang Heng looked out the window. If everything went as planned, the militia should have come for Scherbina, but he didn’t know if they had received the news of the Vice President’s death.

“What should we do?” Mouse asked anxiously. Originally, Scherbina’s death had nothing to do with them, but because they had to kill the flies in the room, they couldn’t let the militia break-in.

Furthermore, given the current situation, if they really opened the door, even if they said that Scherbina's death had nothing to do with them, no one would believe them.

Zhang Heng knew that this was a huge trap that Loki had set for them. If the players clashed with the militia, there might be trouble waiting. However, this kind of thing was an open conspiracy. Even if they knew that it was a trap, in order to get rid of Loki's incarnation, they had to stop the militia at the door at this critical moment.

Therefore, Zhang Heng said, "Leave the people downstairs to me. You guys stay here and take care of these flies."

After saying that, Zhang Heng walked to the door. After confirming that there were no flies following him, Master Kui removed the towel that blocked the door. Then, Zhang Heng quickly opened the door and left.

It was useless to reason at a time like this. Therefore, Zhang Heng skipped this step and found a room with a window facing downstairs. Then, he drew his bow and nocked an arrow.

The leader of the team was waiting for his team members to gather. However, in the next moment, an arrow flew out of nowhere and shot him in the right chest. Zhang Heng didn't go too far. There was no enmity between them; the main reason being the wounded needed someone to take care of them, but they didn't need a corpse.

Zhang Heng's goal was to stall the two carriages as much as possible to buy time for the players in the room to get rid of Loki's avatar. Therefore, it was naturally a better choice for him to wound them.

Zhang Heng's arrow had not only made the leader lose his ability to fight but two militia members, risking being shot, dragged their leader to the back of the truck to take care of him. This meant the militia squad downstairs had lost three members.

After Zhang Heng's successful attack, he quickly nocked a second arrow. He looked down and locked onto a squad leader from the crowd before he quickly released the bowstring.

The scene from before repeated itself. After the squad leader fell to the ground, his men also dragged him to a safe place. At the same time, the militia finally found Zhang Heng's location and raised their guns to fight back.

However, Zhang Heng had already left the room and ran down the fire escape to the first floor. He happened to see a squad of militiamen entering the lobby under the cover of fire.

However, their luck wasn't very good. They met Zhang Heng head-on. This time, the latter used the continuous arrow technique and shot three arrows in one go. Although they all hit the target, their accuracy wasn't as good as before—one of the arrows hit a militiaman's abdomen, and the other hit a militiaman's thigh.

However, the rest of the people stopped in their tracks and started to look for cover. Zhang Heng ran to the front desk as well. After the residents of Pripyat evacuated, the power in the town was cut off. The hotel lobby, which had been brightly lit before, was now shrouded in darkness, making it easier for Zhang Heng to move.

Zhang Heng fired two more arrows in the dark and finally forced the squad that had entered the lobby to retreat.

However, at that moment, the headlights of one of the trucks lit up, illuminating the lobby as if it was daytime. Then, two more groups of militiamen took over the duties of the previous squad and charged toward the hotel lobby.

Zhang Heng did not leave immediately. Instead, he continued to lurk behind the reception desk, listening to the approaching footsteps outside.

After counting silently for three seconds, Zhang Heng drew his bow again, leaned out, and shot two arrows consecutively. The militiaman who was closest to him was shocked and subconsciously squatted down. In the end, the enemy who had never missed before actually missed this time, the two arrows failing to hit him in a row, leaving the militiaman's heart to be instantly filled with joy.

However, his joy lasted less than half a second, and the two arrows that brushed past his body hit the target accurately—the lights of the truck. The hotel lobby dimmed again.

Then, Zhang Heng pulled out a knife and jumped out from behind the front desk.

He fell into the crowd. The militiamen outside and inside the lobby were afraid of their comrades, so they were unable to fire again. However, the knife in Zhang Heng's hand was able to dance freely. In addition, he paid special attention to shooting the headlights of the other car. It only took him half a minute to take down the two squads that had entered the lobby. He even took a hostage.

Worried that the militia squad might be carrying large-scale explosive weapons like grenades, Zhang Heng did not retreat to the front desk. Instead, he retreated into the fire escape. Before he left, he even released the militia that he had captured. Of course, the latter was also wounded, so he could not continue fighting.

In the blink of an eye, Zhang Heng had taken down three squads. However, compared to the total number of people who had come to the hotel, the number of wounded was less than one-third. The militia outside had the strength to continue their attack but, perhaps they were shocked by Zhang Heng's terrifying combat power, and coupled with the fact that the commander had been killed the moment he arrived, that no one dared to enter the lobby, even though they had already seen Zhang Heng retreat into the fire escape.

Zhang Heng, who was focused on stalling for time, was naturally happy to see the stalemate. He did not launch another attack.. Taking advantage of the chaotic melee earlier, he took out two rifles and successfully returned upstairs.

## **Chapter 1187: Sheathing The Blade**

**Translator:** EndlessFantasy Translation **Editor:** EndlessFantasy Translation

After switching to the rifle, Zhang Heng's combat power was strengthened once more. With his level-3 marksmanship and [Filter Lens], no one would be able to attack from here as long as he guarded the fire escape.

The militia then organized two more attacks but were both repelled by Zhang Heng. Furthermore, there were many new casualties. However, through the window, Zhang Heng could also see new military trucks approaching from the distant street. Compared to the first group of people, the second group was probably more well-prepared. Other than that, there was also a helicopter flying toward them. It seemed to be preparing to occupy the roof and attack from there.

Zhang Heng estimated the time. The second group should arrive in three minutes.

Then he looked at the mission panel. This time, the mission was no longer a minimalist route. Not only was there a countdown, but even the number of Loki's remaining avatars was shown. It was still five-fifths, or in other words, the battle with the doctor had not ended yet.

Zhang Heng frowned, put away the rifle in his hand, and went to the door of Scherbina's room. He knocked on the door, to the answer of Master Kui's alert voice.

"Who is it?"

"It's me," Zhang Heng answered.

"Wait a moment."

About ten seconds later, the door opened again, and Zhang Heng walked in. Scherbina's body was still lying on the floor, and the blood under his body had long solidified. However, this time, there were no more buzzing flies around him.

The results of the doctor and the others were quite remarkable. In a short period of time, they had basically eliminated all the flies that could be seen in the room. However, there was no sign of Loki's incarnation among them.

Mouse and Besnova opened the closet in the bedroom and were rummaging through the clothes and towels inside, searching carefully with their flashlights. Before Zhang Heng came in, Master Kui and the doctor weren't idle either. One was in the bathroom, while the other in the living room. However, they didn't find anything for the time being.

They knew that they couldn't stay here for too long. In order to help with the disaster, Scherbina had mobilized many militiamen. Now that the militiamen were constantly on their way, every minute they stayed here would bring them greater dangers.

However, the more anxious they were, the more they couldn't find their target.

Even though they had sealed off the scene and made it into a situation where they could catch a turtle in a jar, due to the small size of the flies and the fact that the hotel was in a state of a power outage, the lights in the room couldn't be turned on. Thus, they could only rely on their flashlights to light up the place, making it extremely difficult to find them.

The doctor was frustrated. The festering skin on his body had caused his body to lose heat. His body temperature had been maintained at around 39 degrees, and his patience had dropped significantly, "What should we do? Why don't we just burn this place to the ground?"



Zhang Heng was noncommittal. He recalled Norse mythology and the part where Loki transformed into a fly. In the story, in order to destroy Hindley's forging, Loki had transformed into a fly and attacked Brock, who was responsible for pulling the bellows. First, he bit Brock's palm.

Then, Zhang Heng walked over to Scherbina's body. Mr. Vice President had been in charge of the Soviet energy construction before his death. He promoted the use of nuclear energy with an iron fist, cleaned up the opposition, and built nuclear power plants all over the Soviet Union. In order to rush the project, he had even neglected the project's safety to a certain extent. After the Chernobyl accident, Scherbina was also the first to rush to the scene to lead the disaster relief work. When he realized the seriousness of the problem, he once again displayed his iron-blooded side, mercilessly urging the various departments to step up the pace of relief work. This was also the reason why there were many controversies about him in latter generations.

The corpse of this important figure, however, now lay on the floor, and no one cared about it.

The players were busy searching for Loki's incarnation, so they did not care about anything else. Only Zhang Heng squatted in front of the vice-chairman's body.

The cause of Scherbina's death was clear, and there was no dispute. Anyone who wasn't blind could tell that he had died from a knife wound. A sharp knife more than 40 centimeters long had pierced his back, penetrating his heart; the murder weapon, left on Scherbina's back.

At the time of the incident, the vice-chairman was probably drinking water in the living room. He didn't even have time to change out of his suit, and the glass of water slipped out of his hand after he was stabbed. However, because the floor was carpeted, the glass didn't break. It rolled to the side of the coffee table, the vice-chairman following suit and falling to the ground.

Zhang Heng only took a glance to reconstruct the situation at the scene, including the position of the murderer at the time, the angle and strength of the knife... However, that wasn't his main focus. Zhang Heng lifted the vice-chairman's left hand to take a look. He didn't see anything unusual, so he lifted his right hand. This time, he finally found something. Under the back of Scherbina's right hand, he saw a wound, as if it had been corroded by something.

This wound was almost negligible compared to the fatal knife wound on his back, but it matched with the part where Loki transformed into a fly and bit the dwarf bullock for the first time according to Norse mythology.

Then Zhang Heng checked Scherbina's neck. This was where Loki transformed into a fly and bit bullock for the second time. Sure enough, he found the same wound, and the third time was when Loki finally succeeded, he had bitten the spot between Bullock's eyes and eyebrows.

Zhang Heng turned the Vice Chairman's corpse over and looked at the latter's eyes and eyebrows.

There, he saw a bloody hole the size of a peanut. The hole was very deep, and he could already see the wall of the eye below. And in the mass of flesh lay a black figure.

It was a fly, but several times larger than an ordinary fly. It looked as if it had been mutated by radiation.

Just as the players wanted to take a closer look, the fly suddenly spread its wings and flew up from the corpse. Its speed was incredibly fast. Like a bullet, it shot up into the sky with a whoosh, then, flapped its wings and kept changing directions.

Master Kui and the others hurriedly adjusted their flashlights, trying to keep up with the fly's movements. However, the fly's flight path was too strange. After a few arcs, they lost track of it.

However, just as the fly was about to leave after playing around with the players, they saw a flash of light.

The next moment, Zhang Heng had already returned the [Hidden Scabbard] to its sheath.

A system notification sounded in everyone's ears.

[Successfully killed 1 Loki avatar. 4 avatars remain. Loki's strength has been reduced by 10%. Obtained 20 points. Head the character interface to check the relevant information....]

Chapter 1188: The Second Incarnation

It got solved just like that?

After hearing the system notification, Master Kui and the others were in a daze. They couldn't believe their eyes. It wasn't until they found the fly's corpse on the ground that they finally realized that Loki's first incarnation had really been killed.

They hadn't expected that the fly, which seemed to move swiftly and elegantly, would send them to the spring so quickly after a series of tiger-like maneuvers. Zhang Heng, who had killed it, didn't even turn on his flashlight. He simply slashed into the darkness, ending the not-so-intense battle.

In addition, he had previously forced Loki to roll on the ground with a single slash. Although there was a reason for this, the others believed that they could not do it. Regardless of their strength, they did not even have the courage to attack Loki, who was in his best condition. One had to know that the latter was the famous god of lies and trickery.

Ordinary players would unconsciously lower their imposing manner when facing Loki, doubting whether they would unknowingly step into the latter's trap. How would they dare to plot against Loki himself?

So was it the strength of the first place on the proxy war rankings then?

Master Kui, the doctor, and Mouse were in a daze for a moment. The previous step-by-step investigation was not apparent. They even felt that Simon's strength was not as strong as the rumors had said. Until tonight, however, they finally realized how insurmountable the gap between them and Simon was.

However, they did not spend too much time lamenting. Besnova had already pointed out the window to remind them. In just a short while, four more military trucks stopped outside the hotel entrance. Not only were militia on the trucks, but also regular soldiers. And this time, they brought heavy weapons with them.

Zhang Heng only took one look before deciding that it would be difficult to break out of the encirclement. "Let's go upstairs," he said.

After what happened earlier, the players didn't even ask where they should go after going upstairs. They all followed Zhang Heng.

Ever since Zhang Heng returned to Scherbina's room, it had been a long time since he had appeared downstairs. Fortunately, the threat he had left behind was still there. When the second group of people arrived, they didn't immediately attack but instead thought of sealing the hotel and preventing the people inside from escaping. This also bought time for the players to move.

The five of them did not stop. They ran straight up to the rooftop. Coincidentally, the helicopter landed on the rooftop. However, just as the pilot stopped the helicopter, he heard a gunshot. Then, he felt a pain in his chest and slumped to the side of the seat.

The remaining ten players quickly took out their weapons. However, at this time, the second wave of attacks from the players had already arrived. Zhang Heng gave the rifle that he had snatched to Mouse. Together with the TT-33 in the doctor's hand, they had some firepower.

However, the shooting skills of the two of them were basically still at level 0, or at most were level 1 beginners. They could only aim and fire. As for whether they could hit the target would depend on the distance and luck of the two parties.

In the end, other than Mouse, who was slightly luckier and hit a militia soldier in the calf, the bullets that followed the two of them either flew away or hit the door of the helicopter.

However, even so, the enemy continued to fall. Zhang Heng used the water tank on the rooftop as a cover to continuously hit the target. Although Mouse and the doctor did not hit the enemy much, they helped Zhang Heng divert a lot of attention, helping his battle be more relaxed.

On the other side, Master Kui finally performed to her standards. During the gunfight between Zhang Heng and the people in the helicopter, she lived up to her code name, sneaking to the aircraft's side from another path. Master Kui had never practiced marksmanship, but as a female, her close combat skills were exemplary. Her attacks were ruthless, and she wasn't at a disadvantage in terms of strength.

She launched an attack from behind and broke the neck of one of the militiamen. Then, she used a dagger to slash at the comrade next to the militiaman. She was only discovered after killing two people, but only three enemies were left in the cabin, including a wounded soldier who had lost his fighting ability. Master Kui was quick-witted. She kicked away the gun in one of the men's hands, then fell into the arm of another man.

By the time Zhang Heng and the others arrived, the battle inside had already ended. Master Kui climbed into the helicopter's pilot seat. When she had introduced herself, she admitted that she had helicopter flying skills and naturally took over the position of the pilot. In addition to the battle just now, she was relieved. She felt that they were finally no longer just accessories around Simon.

"Where are we going?" Master Kui asked as he grabbed the steering wheel.

“We fly east, about 120 kilometers from here. There’s a small village. Loki has an avatar there,” Zhang Heng said. He didn’t fight for the pilot’s seat with Master Kui, sitting at the back with the doctor, Mouse, and Besnova.

The person he was directing Master Kui to look for was that old woman called Sauk. She was also Loki’s avatar that he had met when he and the hostess had returned to the countryside in the parallel dungeon. If it was at the beginning of the dungeon, the doctor, Master Kui, and the others would have probably asked Zhang Heng how he knew where Loki’s avatar was.

This was because, other than the doctors and maintenance workers who had left, the rest of the people had been working in groups during this period of time. Apart from the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, they had not been to any other place outside of Pripjat, not to mention the small village 120 kilometers away. How would Zhang Heng be sure where Loki’s avatar was?

Despite all that, no one questioned Zhang Heng’s judgment.

Previously, Zhang Heng had driven for about two hours to reach the small village. This time, he was taking a helicopter, and because he did not need to take a detour, it took him less than 40 minutes to reach the destination.

From the air, he could already see the half-collapsed dilapidated house, standing alone on the slope. It was no different from the first time Zhang Heng saw it.

At this time, the villages near Pripjat had also begun to evacuate. However, the village where Svetlana’s grandfather lived, 100 kilometers away, was not included. The people were still living as usual, but most residents had already fallen asleep at this time. The lights in Sauk’s room, however, were still on.

Master Kui maneuvered the helicopter and landed on the ridge next to them. But the next moment, loud gunshots suddenly rang out without warning.

A tall and slightly hunched old woman was lying on the hay behind her house. She pointed her gun at the helicopter in the sky and seemed to be cursing.

Kui felt a pain in his right arm, and she subconsciously pulled the control stick. The helicopter, which was still flying well, began to spin around its tail like a cat. It even dove downwards, and it looked like it was about to crash.. At this critical moment, a hand reached out from behind Master Kui and grabbed the control stick, stabilizing the out-of-control helicopter.

## **Chapter 1189: Murals**

**Translator:** EndlessFantasy Translation **Editor:** EndlessFantasy Translation

It only took a few seconds for the helicopter to recover from the loss of control.

However, the people on the aircraft felt like they had been through a century. Seeing Master Kui, the only pilot shot, many people felt like they were going to die this time. However, other than searching for support to stabilize their bodies, there was nothing else they could do, and they could only watch the helo fall from the sky.

Unexpectedly, at the critical moment, it was Simon who took over the helicopter's controls and stabilized the fuselage. At the same time, Zhang Heng and the wounded Master Kui switched seats and took the pilot's seat.

However, the old woman named Sauk also cursed and reloaded the shotgun.

This time, she took aim at Zhang Heng. Sauk was clearly not as crazy as she appeared to be. She knew very well that as long as she killed the pilot, none would be able to escape the helicopter.

However, this time, she encountered an opponent. Although they could fly the helicopter, Master Kui and Zhang Heng's piloting skills were completely different. Master Kui's piloting skills were learned from a dungeon, but due to the limited time in the game, she had only learned the basics. She spent half a month learning how to fly from point A to point B, but that was all.

Zhang Heng, on the other hand, had spent half a year training with the ace pilot Armstrong in the Flight Dynamics Lab under NASA. Zhang Heng's shooting skills were also at level 3. With just a glance at Master Kui's injuries, Zhang Heng could roughly estimate Sauk's shooting skills. She should be at the peak of Level 2, so as long as he could land steadily, Zhang Heng was confident that he could kill Loki's second incarnation.

Thus, when Zhang Heng took over the helicopter, he first pulled the joystick to the left and tilted the aircraft to block Sauk's shooting angle. At the same time, he pulled down first and then raised the throttle main lever. The helicopter nodded downward, but it was only a ruse to fool Sauk. Before the latter could open fire, the aircraft continued to pull up. Sauk's second bullet grazed the landing gear of the helicopter and ricocheted away.

Zhang Heng didn't risk descending, continuing his climb to a relatively safe height before flying to the other side of the field. It was not until he was out of the shooting range of the hunting rifle that he finally found a suitable place to land.

After the three minutes of shock, many people were still unable to catch their breath. They were dazed by a certain someone's extreme maneuvers, but they now looked at Zhang Heng in an even more admirable way.

Although they were not Simon's fans, they had seen several posts related to Zhang Heng on the forums during this period. There had been rumors that Simon might have no weaknesses in his skills, a rare all-rounder. That had to be the only explanation for why he had been single-tasking all this time.

However, most people were skeptical of this theory because it was well known that their time and energy were limited. It was hard to believe that someone could do something that a team would usually do. It was ridiculous, of course, but they all believed it after personally arranging a dungeon with Simon.

Zhang Heng first took a look at Kui's injury. The latter had been shot in the right arm by Sauk. Her condition wasn't looking too good; the place where she had been shot was a bloody mess. There was a lot of blood, but fortunately, the position was not fatal. It was a blessing in disguise.

The doctor was already helping her bandage up. So Zhang Heng said to Mouse, "Your legs are in no condition to move. Stay here and protect them. Leave Loki's avatar to me."

Mouse was very self-aware, so he didn't try to be brave. Instead, he nodded. "Okay, we will guard this place well and try not to drag you down, God."

Zhang Heng looked around to make sure that there was no danger. Then, he took out his [Filter Lens] and put it on. He bent down with the rifle in hand and hid his body in the wheat field, moving toward Sauk's place.

It took him about 15 minutes to reach Sauk's house again. The lights were still on, but after the haystack, Sauk was nowhere to be seen. Zhang Heng was not in a hurry. It had only been an hour since the mission's second phase began, and there was still plenty of time. He took a detour and sneaked in from the south side.

When he was close, he first smashed the window with a stone. Then, he pressed his body against the wall on the other side. However, there was still no movement in the house. Zhang Heng heard the sound of the stone hitting the ground and rolling around before crashing into another wall; he stopped. Almost simultaneously, he broke through the door and rushed into the room.

Because there was still a kerosene lamp burning in the room, he didn't need the [Filter Lens] to see everything inside. Unlike ordinary residences, the large room was empty. There was nothing but a wooden table. Zhang Heng couldn't even find a bed inside. It was really no different from a cave.

Other than that, a mural was on the wall. It was drawn with charcoal, depicting the five avatars of Loki. One was a corpse and a fly. Seeing that the body was very similar to Scherbina's, Zhang Heng's heart skipped a beat. He looked at the other paintings. One of them was an old woman running in the forest, and a black shadow with a gun was chasing him. If he wasn't mistaken, the old woman was Sauk herself, and the Black Shadow was Zhang Heng.

There was another painting on the wall that Zhang Heng had seen before. It was of a horse drinking water by a stream, and there was a Lada parked on the other side of the river. Zhang Heng quickly scanned through the other murals and memorized the contents. These murals were obviously similar to the hints in the game, pointing the way for the players to find Loki's avatar.

Of course, Zhang Heng didn't wholly believe the contents of the murals. Based on his understanding of Loki, he didn't think that the guy would be so kind and considerate of the players. In fact, it was bizarre that these murals would appear here, especially the one about the white mare. It was a scene that happened in a parallel dungeon.

The Lada that appeared in the murals wasn't a coincidence. The person who painted it had obviously seen this scene with his own eyes, but this also meant that Loki had entered the parallel dungeon with him. Zhang Heng recalled what had happened in the parallel dungeon and realized that other than Loki's two other avatars that appeared in the middle of the dungeon, he didn't believe that the other people he had come into contact with were Loki's disguises.

Furthermore, looking at the young man in the uniform, it was evident that he was also engrossed in killing the werewolves.. He did not expect Zhang Heng to suddenly attack him. Could the mural on the wall have been painted by someone else?

**Chapter 1190:** Room 302

Loki looked a little disheveled.

Although his four severed fingers had grown back, they still looked a little different from the original one on his other hand. His skin color and size were similar to that of a newborn.

The blood flow on the spot where Zhang Heng had cut his chest had also stopped long ago. The [Hidden Scabbard's] non-healing attribute seemed to have no effect on him. However, if one looked closely, one would see that his wound had not completely healed, but it had become so small blood could no longer flow out. There was also a small wound on his severed finger. As for the gunshot wound on his abdomen, it had already recovered.

Loki looked like a middle-aged man who had just been retrenched by the company. He was walking home with a sad face, sighing, and seemed to be having a headache about how to face his wife and children who were waiting for him to get off work.

He deliberately slowed down and dawdled for a while, stopping in front of a clothing store for a moment. After changing into a new coat, he continued on his way.

During this time, he heard the sound of a helicopter flying over his head. He looked up at the plane flying out of the city and made a shooting gesture. After entertaining himself for a while, his mood seemed to have improved. He regained his brisk pace, hummed a little tune, and hopped forward. Finally, he arrived in front of an apartment building.

Like the other apartments in the city, there was nothing special about this one. Because of the evacuation, it also looked deserted.

Loki also met a cat downstairs. Unlike the stray cats that the players had encountered before, which had been exposed to radiation and had become deformed and skinny due to lack of food, this one looked very beautiful and leisurely. Its fur was shiny, its body round. It licked its paws as it squatted beside the flower bed.

Loki walked to the cat's side. He squatted down and scratched the cat's chin. The cat also showed a comfortable expression. At the same time, its body began to change. It was as if it was made up of cubes. If a player nearby saw this scene, they would probably gasp in shock, because this cat looked exactly like the one in Minecraft.

Loki also clicked his tongue. He left a can of fish for the cat that had become a cube, then got up and continued walking forward.

At the gate, he met another man dressed like a mercenary. He was not the kind of mercenary who was active in local wars to make money for the warlords, but instead, a mercenary dressed in medieval attire in the world of swords and magic.

He wore a set of chainmail and carried two swords on his back. One was made of steel and the other was made of silver. The long scar on his left eye showed that he had rich combat experience, but none of those were as eye-catching as his golden pupils and white hair.

When Loki saw the white-haired man, he sighed. "He said I didn't follow the rules. Didn't he go even further? He even made Wizard."

The white-haired man across from him also spoke, his deep, husky voice full of masculinity. "You look terrible. Your day didn't go well. Why? Did you quarrel with your girlfriend?"

"Typical Geralt humor." Loki shrugged. "But I have a good relationship with my wife and lover. Thanks to your boss, I was almost killed."

"So you came here to get back at me?" the white-haired man said as he placed his hand on the hilt of the silver sword behind him.

"Relax, demon hunter," Loki said. "I just came here to greet the creator of this world and offer my humble respects."

"I can smell conspiracy and intrigue from you from ten miles away. You'd better be as honest as you say, evil god. Otherwise, the sword in my hand is for you," the white-haired man said coldly, but after staring at Loki for half a second, he still moved away.

"Thank you so much," Loki said politely. As he passed by the white-haired man, he whispered into the man's ear, "If you ever get tired of all this and the feeling of being controlled by someone, you can come to me if you want to change your job."

"Stop your devil's whispers. I've been through the trials of the grass, and my will is firm," the white-haired man replied.

Loki did not mind. He glanced behind him again. There seemed to be a hooded figure hiding in the shadows. Loki waved at the man, but seeing that the man did not respond, he was not angry. He strode forward, he continued to walk upstairs.

He climbed up to the third floor and finally stopped in front of Room 302. He knocked on the door, but there was no response.

"I'm coming in," Loki said with a smile, then pushed open the unlocked door.

After all the residents of the city had left by car, no one had expected that there would be a ten-year-old boy in Room 302. His parents should have left with the convoy and there were also traces of them rummaging around the house before they left.

However, the careless couple had forgotten to take their child with them, leaving the latter alone in the abandoned city. God knew how he had come here all this way by himself.

However, when he was discovered by Loki, he did not cry. He was much quieter than the average child, sitting on the floor with his back facing the door.

Loki seemed to be worried that he would scare the little boy. He quietly walked behind him and saw the little boy playing go with him. One hand was holding a white chess piece while the other was holding a black chess piece. They were having a great time killing each other on the chessboard.



The abandoned little boy seemed to have completely immersed himself in the game of go. Even when rocky walked behind him, he did not notice it until rocky coughed twice and said, "I'm just curious. If you win in the end, do you lose or win?"

"To me, winning or losing is far less enjoyable than playing chess." The little boy looked at the bottom right corner of the chessboard, where the black-and-white chess fight was most intense. He answered casually when he heard Loki's question, his voice filled with childlike innocence.

"It seems we still have some similarities." Loki licked his face to get closer to him.

Unexpectedly, the little boy shook his head and said, "No, you and I are two different kinds of people. I respect the rules of the game, because in most cases, you can only have the most fun playing under the rules. This is also the reason why rules exist.. They are not only a constraint, but also a source of fun."