

Apocalypse 151

Chapter 151: Fountain of Stamina

The area behind the zombie hoard was really weird. Captain Ye who didn't look like a human and another person looked on from afar. Behind them was a level three Hundred Hand Zombie and also a level three mutated serpent.

"It... It is him..."

The voice was hoarse. Even in the morning with the rising sun, the voice sent chills down one's spine.

"So.. So del... Delicious." Captain Ye's black eyes flashed red and locked onto Ye Zhongming.

"Yi!"

The person beside Captain Ye raised his head and sniffed the air.

"I... I smell... Another... Delicious."

This monster turned around to look in a direction. On a high building was a person on the roof.

"There... There!"

"You... That.... I... This."

"Okay!"

Captain Ye interacted with that person. His partner tapped the head of the serpent who had a black horn growing out of its forehead. This level three mutated being respectfully lowered its head to allow the person to jump on its thick body. He held its neck and the serpent slithered towards that tall building.

Captain Ye didn't bother about his partner and just stared at Ye Zhongming. His mouth spat out words with much difficulty.

"You... You are... Mine."

A line shaped being twisted beneath his skin.

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Ye Zhongming jumped backward to dodge the attack of a level two zombie. He slashed with Moon Edge to slice that zombie into two.

His body was covered in thick zombie blood and it was as if he was dragged out from a blood ocean. But he was a war god. No zombie or mutated lifeform was able to break through and get onto the ruins.

Level two evolved, one that used the modified potion. He even had the white weapon Moon Edge. His strength was far above these zombies and mutated monsters. As long as his stamina was okay, he could continue standing here and fighting them.

But having to fully focus for so long consumed a lot of stamina.

Like running, when you went all out to sprint, maybe you can only last for a dozen seconds. If you last for half a minute, when you stop you will feel weak and your legs will go soft. If you run slowly, you might be able to run for dozens of minutes.

This was the difference. A full strength fight against nonhumans consumed a lot of stamina. Even with adrenaline, normal people couldn't last for too long.

Evolved were stronger than normal people but there was a limit. Ye Zhongming needed to hold on for half an hour!

This was a huge test of his stamina.

Moreover, he couldn't finish his stamina within half an hour as there was an uncertain danger nearby and he had to defend against it.

But he still pursed his lips and slashed with Moon Edge. Each blade would have Full Strength Light to slice the enemies in an area.

“Five more minutes!”

Such a battle, such stamina stunned those above the ruins. Each person including Li Qiang had one thought.

This person was not human.

He really wasn't human. Even if he was a two star evolved but was he so strong? In such an intense battle, he had to move his body around and raise his shield as well as slash with his weapon. He was able to last for 8 minutes without feeling tired at all!

How was that possible? It was understandable if his slashes slowed down but it didn't and didn't show any signs that it would, this...

The survivors were impressed.

Maybe, such a person was the last hope of mankind.

Was Ye Zhongming tired? Of course, he was.

But he held on, as.... Before he reached two star evolved, he obtained another reward from the level two gachapon.

Stat Stone!

It gave him a stat-- Fountain of Stamina.

This was a passive skill that surprised Ye Zhongming. He didn't know that the Stat Stone would give such a thing.

Fountain of Stamina: Double stamina, double stamina recovery.

Ye Zhongming felt like he was going dizzy from bliss after he ate the stone.

In the last life, the evolved he knew that ate the stat stones strengthened base stats like strength, speed, agility, vision, smell, senses etc. Some top quality ones would improve one's body like

strengthening weak points like one's throat, heart etc. Elemental strengthening would allow one's elemental skills, summoning, weapons etc to be stronger when used.

But Ye Zhongming didn't hear of Stat Stones that could change basic stats.

Stamina seemed useless but after you have it you would know that not only it would make you run faster, you would run longer. It couldn't let you jump higher but you can jump multiple times more.

For example, with the Fountain of Stamina now, Ye Zhongming could stand there and not retreat!

This situation gave everyone hope and it made Captain Ye impatient.

It opened its mouth and its lips started to twitch. The air around started to twist like a sound wave was being sent out.

The zombies and mutated lifeforms got really frustrated and they surged at Ye Zhongming. Among them were many level two mutated lifeforms. They didn't care about their lives. Even if many died, they wanted to kill this human!

Their attacks came from all around from every angle. They were so strong that even Ye Zhongming was injured. He was scratched and bitten many times!

There were really too many enemies. They turned into a ball made of their own bodies to wrap Ye Zhongming within!

"Boss Ye!"

Li Qiang shouted and looked on in disbelief. He didn't understand why they would go mad and he didn't know why so many level two lifeforms would appear, if... They didn't charge at Ye Zhongming but at them, then....

Li Qiang shuddered and thanked his lucky stars.

"Let's go!" Li Qiang was the only evolved here and he gave the order to retreat, "Leave it up to the heavens, we tried our best."

Ye Zhongming was swallowed by the zombies which meant that this defense was over. They could only place their hopes on the explosion to block the entrance.

"Wait, wait a minute."

A survivor ran but turned his head to look and stopped in shock.

He saw flames seeping out from the ball that was wrapping around Ye Zhongming!

Chapter 152: Base defence

Suddenly, light shot out of the ball formed of a dense amount of monsters.

Even under the sun, the red light was really eye catching and it even caused the sky to lose its color.

After the light was flames.

Li Qiang and the others who wanted to retreat saw scenes of people burning bodies in one hit for the first time.

In the past, one could only experience such visual effects from movies and their special effects. Those things were occurring right in front of them, making them forget the fear of death. They stared closely.

The monsters that were so aggressive had now turned into black ash. Deep blade marks appeared on the ground and anything that was in the path of the mark was sliced open.

Black ash and broken limbs formed a shocking scene.

A person stood in the middle, shield on the left and blade on the right!

“That, it is Ye...”

The mouth of a survivor was a little dry. He wanted to say something to express his current thoughts but he noticed that he couldn't even say a single thing.

Li Qiang thought that Ye Zhongming was unbelievably strong before. But now he understood that he had underestimated him. This young man's strength had reached a level that he couldn't understand. He also didn't understand what that strike was.

Ye Zhongming panted and his chest went up and down with his breathing. Due to the high temperature, the blood and flesh dried up and stuck to his clothes to make him look really dirty.

But be it the survivors on the ruins or the mutated life forms on the other side, no one underestimates him because of that. Even the normal zombies with no intellect looked afraid. This was an instinct, a fear in their bones of someone that was strong.

Those level two mutated life forms even retreated, pulling open the distance between Ye Zhongming and them. They were really afraid. They had some intellect and could sense far more than their other low level monsters that this guy was a killing god.

The entire battlefield became eerily silent.

Ye Zhongming had used the Light Seal Blademaster's combined skill, Seal: Flame Blade.

The difference with when he was a one star evolved was that he used it three times at once in three directions.

Two star evolution improved all areas of the body. The job skill needed the survivor to have a job but when he used the skills, the strength of it was connected to the user's strength.

When Ye Zhongming was one star, he could only use the job skill twice. Even then he might run out of mental energy.

Now that he was two star, his mental energy increased. Although he couldn't use the Seal: Flame Blade four times, but three times was fine.

Moreover, this move was even quicker and it was much stronger.

He didn't use Summoning Technique previously as he did not want to consume mental energy.

This strike was really effective.

“Ye, Boss Ye, time is enough.”

Li Qiang's face flushed red. Although this person wasn't him, but he was a human and he felt glory. He was even stammering when he spoke.

Ye Zhongming looked coldly at the zombie hoard and mutated life forms. He turned around and stepped onto the ruins, disappearing from the field of sight of the monsters.

A moment later, there was an intense explosion as both buildings were ignited. Giant ruins blocked the south region from the other areas and blocked the monsters.

In the distance, Captain Ye was still thinking back to Ye Zhongming's strike. His face twisted and his body shook before he roared towards the sky.

There wasn't a sound but it sent the zombies and mutated monsters berserk. They started to attack the base.

"Quick, quick, stack the sandbags."

"Pour some oil down there."

"Move the stone to the wall. We do not have many bullets, we have to use this."

Jia Ming became the busiest person here after the explosion. He ordered the survivors to strengthen the ruins and also to organise defenses in the other regions.

Although many people were confused and even unwilling to listen to this random guy that popped up, but since this zombie siege concerned everyone's survival, they respected the guy who stepped up. They started to fix the defence. Many people would even automatically defend the areas where the zombies attacked more intensely.

At least from the moral standpoint, it was much better than before.

Only until dawn did the attacks slow down. In the instance that the zombie hoard retreated, the survivors fell to the ground and felt relief.

The base was in danger several times during the day, especially in the south at the ruins. As it was not straight and the height was different, many zombies could climb up. If not for Little Tiger, Mo Ye, Xia Lei etc defending here, the new base would have turned into their food.

Near dusk, many level two monsters attacked, forcing Ye Zhongming who was recovering in the room to step back up and lead his team.

When darkness arrived, both sides stopped. The human death numbers shocked everyone.

Since the chaos of last night, the new base had over three thousand casualties. Most of them were dead and only a few hundred were injured.

This was how cruel the apocalypse was. Sometimes, small injuries, even the smallest of ones resulted in death if one didn't have the immunity potion...

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In a community building in the east were the new leaders of the base.

Ye Zhongming sat in the corner, closing his eyes to rest up. His team was all around as they looked at Jia Ming, Da Ming and Li Qiang as well as the three who performed well today discuss matters.

One of the three was evolved and he was called Le Fei. He was under Chef Jin and he had a good reputation. This was also a reason why he was alive. The other two were people who joined Ye Zhongming to defend the ruins in the morning.

“People that are injured, follow... What Boss Ye said, tie them up.”

Chapter 153: Best thing here

Jia Ming’s expression was a little weird when he said that.

Ye Zhongming told him in the morning that after the defence was over, they would lock up those that were scratched by the mutated lifeforms.

Everyone knew that without the immunity potion, being scratched meant death.

But the obstruction when one really wanted to do that was huge.

These people had just given their blood and sweat to protect the base and in a blink, they ended up as prisoners. Anyone normal would resist that.

There was some chaos when making this decision. Fortunately, the evolved came to calm everything down.

But the base still became unstable because of that choice.

Ye Zhongming opened his eyes and stood up slowly, “We are doing this for the safety of the base. If someone mutates in the base, we would be in chaos without the outside hoard attacking. We have to control those that are injured.”

“But they are all courageous. At least they were willing to fight against the zombies while most only hide at home to shiver! This is not fair!”

A normal person who did well and got recognised felt the same way. Although he was not injured but he might end up in such a situation so he felt emotional.

“Then what do you think? Allow them to mutate?”

That person sighed when he faced those questions. He lowered his head. He was only venting his emotions and even he himself didn’t know what he should do.

“If we don’t tie them out then we have to chase them out. They will mutate and join the zombie hoard to attack the base that they protected. Is that fair?!”

Ye Zhongming walked to the middle of the room and looked at Jia Ming, “Give their demon crystals to those with families. I think they would be willing to give their loved ones a fortune when they are dead. Collect those without loved ones to spin and then give the potions to those who did well in the day.”

Jia Ming nodded and knew that this was the best solution. It could satisfy the families and also increase the income of the base.

“Post notifications. I need a thousand people to head out tomorrow with me. These people will get food and water and their families will get treated well. Those who do well will get evolution potions.”

Ye Zhongming instructed. After seeing Jia Ming nod, he smiled.

“I am just teaching you how to control a base. Don’t worry, I won’t make you a puppet. This place will be yours. But when I am here, I am in charge.” He tossed something from his pocket to Jia Ming before leading his team away.

Everyone looked at the thing in his hands and showed a look of envy.

It was an evolution potion, a ticket into heaven.

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“Boss, isn’t this place good, why are we leaving?”

Little Tiger scratched his head as they walked and didn’t know why Ye Zhongming wanted to give up on the base that they controlled.

The others didn’t understand and they looked at Ye Zhongming for an answer.

There was a gachapon here. Not only a level one wheel but also a level two one. If they had time, it was enough for all the team members to reach two star.

Moreover, Ye Zhongming had absolute confidence. No one in the base could go against him and he could do anything he wanted.

In other words, he was the king here and could do many things he wanted. He could use the resources here to quicken his transformation.

“He has bigger targets.” Xia Lei was already an official member so naturally, she followed them. Through Mo Ye, everyone found out about what happened to Xia Lei and pitied her.

Betrayal often hurt one the most.

Ye Zhongming smiled, “What is the biggest advantage of this base? What is the biggest disadvantage?”

They looked at one another. Liang Chuyin said, “There are many people and we can develop many warriors to form a strong force. That should be the biggest advantage.”

“There are three wheels so that should be the biggest.” Little Tiger continued and many people agreed with that.

“As for the disadvantage, there aren’t many weapons and bullets. The defensive ability is really weak!” Seeing everyone agree, Little Tiger continued to analyse.

“Let’s hear what Ye Zhongming has to say.” Teacher Park was a full supporter of Ye Zhongming. The more she saw, the more she believed that someone like Ye Zhongming could survive.

“The biggest advantage is actually resource.” Ye Zhongming looked outside of the base.

“You are talking about those monsters?” Xia Lei ran her fingers through her hair and asked with uncertainty.

Ye Zhongming nodded, “Disadvantage is that there is only a level two wheel here.”

Everyone was stunned and understood what he meant.

This fellow was looking down on the level two wheel.

So many people were risking their lives for a one star potion! Even Xia Lei’s husband sent his wife away for one right?

On one side were people willing to give up everything for a potion, on the other was Ye Zhongming who was looking down on a two star wheel. The contrast was huge.

“I am staying here as I hadn’t collected the resource outside. Once I get it, we will leave. There are many things for us to do.”

He tapped Little Tiger’s shoulder, “Don’t worry, level two wheel isn’t too good. I will bring you to see better things.”

Ye Zhongming didn’t explain in too much detail.

As the apocalypse progressed, mutated life forms would evolve and level one demon crystals would become rarer and rarer.

In the last life, this was the reason why Ye Zhongming found it so hard to evolve. The two star and even three star potions weren’t as tough as one star potions.

So he knew that collecting more level one demon crystals was much more useful in the starting two years.

There were tens of thousands of normal zombies outside which were a good source of level one crystals. He wanted to deal with these zombies and fill his pockets.

Relying on his team was not enough to collect too many of these low level crystals. The manpower in the base now could do such a thing under his leadership.

Right, Ye Zhongming’s only goal was the walking riches outside!

“As for how to do it, just follow me. Now, let’s get a few small riches.”

Chapter 154: Gun and car

In the building near the edge of the east, there was a new branch of a bank.

Ye Zhongming brought them into the branch and walked in front of a golden door.

“Vault?”

Little Tiger looked around and noticed that it was locked.

“Just a security vault.” Ye Zhongming replied, “The only thing inside are metals and bills, they aren’t very useful.”

“Security vault? Is there anything good inside?”

Le Dayuan got more familiar with everyone over these few days so he spoke more casually.

“The lock isn’t too complicated, give me some time and it can be opened. But I need a few tools.”

He used a torchlight to examine the metal lock confidently. He was used to working with these tools so he understood the theories behind it.

“No need, this isn’t of a good quality.”

Ye Zhongming took out Moon Edge and thrust it into the gaps in the metal door. He slashed a little and sliced the few locks.

Everyone was not used to this violent method and felt a little excited that they were committing a crime.

The vault was very clean with many golden racks placed there. There were many security boxes of different sizes with different locks. Some were mechanical while some used fingerprints.

“There are probably many good things here, let me have a look.” Little Tiger learned from Ye Zhongming and started to slice the locks. In front of a white weapon, these decent-quality boxes were like tofu.

“Sister Lei, Sister Lei, come take a look. Is this grandmother green?”

Little Tiger sliced a box and took out the thing inside. It was a green stone so he called Xia Lei to examine it.

“En, it is.” Xia Lei shone the torchlight on it.

After she married Qin Yu she started to learn more about such luxurious items. In the police system, she was the strongest at identifying such things.

“It should be really valuable right?”

“This piece...” Xia Lei thought about it, “Close to a million.”

“Damn, we are rich.”

Everyone ignored the dumb fellow.

“Zhongming, is there anything good here?”

Ye Zhongming looked at the numbers on the boxes and came to one marked B18. He opened the lock with Moon Edge and took out a long black case.

“Do you remember the two evolved we met in the market?” Ye Zhongming held the case and looked at Liang Chuyin.

She nodded, “Yes, those two... Animals.”

“Their character ain’t much but they were the right-hand men of the two leaders. One of them didn’t die and I met him in the day. He told me some useful information to live.”

“This is a gun case?” Park Xiuying didn’t come across such things in the past so she judged the item in Ye Zhongming’s hand.

“This length... Sniper?”

Mo Ye touched the case. This was a specially made case so she was not sure what gun was inside.

Ye Zhongming looked at the lock and crushed it. He opened the case and shone it with the torchlight so that everyone could see the gun inside.

“Type 88?”

The few cops said its name right away and their eyes all lit up.

This was a local made type 88 sniper rifle that belonged to the previous generation. The current equipment they used was either M03 or M99. There were even newly designed types like the QBU10.

But the type 88 was the first sniper rifle in the world to be widely used. Although it wasn’t used in war but it performed well in military competitions and missions so many people loved it.

This was a training rifle of the city army. Chef Jin used his position as the leader of the base to take this gun. His man Yang Shilong was a worker in the bank so he stored the gun here as one of his trump cards. Unfortunately, he died and his gun was left for the person that killed him.

“Haiz, this gun set is quite complete. It has a mechanical and laser scope.” Little Tiger’s love of the gun was on full display.

“Just that there aren’t many bullets, only 20.” Xia Lei looked inside and felt unfortunate.

Ye Zhongming didn’t say anything and closed the case, “Go to the next place.” =

Everyone was happy that they were able to get a sniper rifle so easily. They knew that Ye Zhongming could modify guns so this gun would be extremely strong after that.

In just a while, they came to an underground carpark that was still under construction. They saw a vehicle that was covered in black cloth.

Although Ye Zhongming led everyone here, but after he opened the black cloth, he couldn’t hide his excitement.

This was an infantry vehicle, a perfect one without any marks on the armor.

This was left when the army tried to assist the base. The two leaders hid it here just in case.

“This fellow is a good thing.”

Little Tiger jumped up, opening the hatch and jumping in. In just a while, there was a rumbling from within, “This really is a good thing. With this, our combat strength will skyrocket.”

Ye Zhongming shook his head, “This vehicle is mostly used to travel as it can ignore the roads filled with vehicles. When we leave we wouldn’t have to walk much. As for combat strength, it can deal with normal zombies but without bullets or if they faced higher level life forms, it would be a steel cage and you will die inside.”

Little Tiger jumped. In the day he had seen various life forms with weird abilities and he knew that he had to use apocalypse standards to look at things. But with this fellow, everyone felt safer.

“Boss, this thing is good but we can’t use it now. Didn’t you say that we are going to get a few good things? Are there others?”

He nodded, “It might be dangerous but I don’t think everyone minds right?”

Everyone laughed.

Ye Zhongming’s final opportunity was very simple, which was--- picking up corpses.

After this battle, the area outside the walls was covered with bodies of zombies and mutated life forms but no one dared to pick up that wealth as there were many more zombies around.

But Ye Zhongming was interested in it.

Chapter 155: Conversation on the walls

“How long has boss been out for?”

Little Tiger lit a cigarette and asked Le Dayuan who sat near him on the walls.

Originally, Ye Zhongming did not allow Le Dayuan to participate in dangerous operations. This was the grandmaster that developed the future crystal weapons. He was one of the most valuable people in the apocalypse. If anything happened to him, the losses would be huge.

But Le Dayuan was an insistent person. Seeing the people of the party risk their lives while he hid at the side and share the resources that others worked hard to get, although he didn’t mention it but he cared about it a lot.

Especially the intense defence in the day. Le Dayuan didn’t know whether or not this was a true large sized battle against the zombies but he felt ashamed that he didn’t join in.

No one doubted Ye Zhongming’s choice and no one questioned why Le Dayuan couldn’t join in. The members knew that he was a technical genius that would help the party greatly which was why they took good care of him.

But the more that happened, the more he felt useless. He was evolved but he was still hiding behind others! So he insisted on following, even doing some logistics was good.

Ye Zhongming considered a little before agreeing. It was good to let him experience some fights which might help me in the future.

“Around half an hour.” Le Dayuan looked towards the city that was pitch black.

“Boss... Is very mysterious. Do you think so?”

Le Dayuan turned his head and used the bit of light from the head of the cigarette to look at Little Tiger. He said slowly, “Everyone has their own secrets.”

“I didn’t mean that. Don’t you think that he can predict the future? It is as if he understands the apocalypse.”

“So what?”

Le Dayuan's words stunned Little Tiger.

Right, so what?

Could they leave Ye Zhongming to head out on their own? Little Tiger shuddered when he tried to think about the uncertainty without Ye Zhongming and tossed that thought far away.

"So what if he has secrets?" Liang Chuyin's voice spread over from afar. She laid on her own whip, "No matter how mysterious he is, or rather what kind of identity he has, I only know that he saved my life. He gave me the potion to let me evolve. He taught me how to fight and how to survive in this damn world."

The other members of the team listened quietly, in their minds, they were thinking about the past few days with the others.

"He gave me all these but didn't even climb onto my bed. If it was another guy, not to mention the hymen, my part might not even be tender and pink anymore."

The faces of the few girls turned red. Even Xia Lei couldn't handle how direct she was. She pushed Liang Chuyin and laughed, "You really are corrupted."

Park Xiuying and Liang Chuyin were the closest so they kicked one another, "You always have nothing nice to say."

"Some things are better said out. But I want to say that although it is early to worship Ye Zhongming but I believe that it would be the case in the future." The influencer danced along with her whip. She had strong dance asics. Her Wind Dancer job and her evolved body made her even more flexible and gave her even more control.

"I am lucky and I think every one of you is too. We are able to live and live so well because of this 20 year old kid. I don't know what all of you think but I will continue to follow him. I don't care about the secrets he has or the responsibilities he has but I will follow him. Be it being a good person or an evil person, I will kill or save whoever he tells me to."

"You really have no bottom line." Teacher Park scoffed. Her tone wasn't her scolding her but it was more of her making a joke.

"How much is bottom line worth? Can we eat it? Can we trade it for potions? I know that my bottom line is that his enemies are my enemy. I will do what he wants to do."

Everyone was silent. They knew that Liang Chuyin was loyal to Ye Zhongming but they didn't expect her to give up herself so much for the cause.

"I came from a village and there aren't many nice people that I have met. Each person wanted to rip me apart and have good fun. They were only willing to do things like a meal or make a phone call but they wanted me to give up everything."

“Before the apocalypse, I haven’t met someone who gave me so much. In the apocalypse where everything is precious, I am happy to meet him.”

“Uncle Le, Sister Lei, although you guys don’t say it but I know that when you look at the night sky, you must think about the people who betrayed you. That is normal and it is your experience that you don’t want to bring up.”

“But that is why I feel like as compared to me, you need to cherish this guy that popped up from nowhere. He might not be a good person and might not be noble but he gave us our beating hearts and warm bodies. He allowed us to stand here and look down on the zombie hoard.”

“Even in the future, I would give my life for him. Even if he betrays me, I have nothing to say.”

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“That is because he gave me my life.”

Zombies roaring could be heard from where they stood. Each person dissected what she said.

After a short while, Le Dayuan laughed, “Since Ye Zhongming saved me from that cold family building, my life was his. I am not a person from history that would be willing to give up my life for a bottle of wine but I will be thankful to someone that saves my life. If he gives me food I will follow him, if he treats me well then I would do too.”

Little Tiger scratched his head, “I... I just asked why is Boss so mysterious so why are all of you making me sound like a bad person? I, I will definitely follow boss. All of you have jobs but I don’t. Moreover, my boss said that he would bring me to see nice things, I haven’t seen those things yet.”

Everyone laughed, it was a true laugh. Not because of Little Tiger but because they started to recognise one another through all the fights.

“Sister Lei and I have mentioned it before”, Mo Ye touched the ice cold blade, “I want to see where this guy would end up.”

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Ye Zhongming who was away was standing beside a giant pool of a large feed processing factory, he looked down with a complicated expression---

Pit of corpses!

Chapter 156: Crafting the puppet

This was the place where the new district base got rid of their corpses.

Each day, people from the base would toss the dead here. As this funnel shaped pool was built on a high platform and was also sealed within a firm vehicle, so one didn’t need to worry about mutated life forms finding it. One could continue tossing corpses into it.

In the apocalypse, it was common to have a place to deal with bodies. What Ye Zhongming didn't expect was for there to be so many corpses here!

On a rough count, there were at least two thousand corpses here!

How many people died yesterday? The new base was built just a few days ago and so many people died?

This caused Ye Zhongming to recall the fear and hatred that the survivors of the base had towards the evolved.

Ye Zhongming placed a few lamps around the vehicle to light up the area. He looked around and saw an empty water pool that was suitable to act as a blood pond.

He dragged two mutated cows beside the pool and sliced their necks. The thick smell of blood spread in the sky.

"You... What do you want to do?"

Yang Shilong whose hands were broken and was brought here trembled. When he looked at what this young man did, he couldn't help but feel fear.

Yang Shilong thought that he was lucky. From university to work and until he evolved it was like that. He was even able to survive that terrifying blade light.

But that feeling ended today. He met this guy, the guy that used the blade that night.

He was unable to fight back at all. Under all the pressure he had to say everything he knew. That included the gun, that vehicle and also this location. But Yang Shilong felt like this guy didn't plan to let him go.

He felt even more terrified when he looked towards the guy releasing blood into the pool. He didn't know whether or not it was getting ready for him.

"I just picked up a skill." Ye Zhongming calculated the amount of blood. The Basic Puppet Technique needed 500 kilograms of blood."

"You also know that I just learned it so I am not too familiar. I need to practice a little."

Ye Zhongming's words were really calm but to Yang Shilong, it felt like thunder. It caused his body to shake and even his lips turned purple.

He didn't know what the skill was but he had a corpse pit on his left and a blood pool on his right. Even a fool would know that the skill wouldn't be a good one.

"Can you, let, let me go? In the future I will be your dog, I will, be loyal towards you..." Yang Shilong hated himself for not learning many languages. He felt like he didn't know any better phrases to show his loyalty.

"Ask the smelly corpses here if they are willing to forgive you."

Ye Zhongming tossed the two dead cows to the side and the blood pool was basically done.

“Your turn.” Ye Zhongming gave a devilish smile to Yang Shilong. He cried out in terror and wanted to flee but in front of the two star Ye Zhongming, his struggles were useless.

His limbs were all broken. He lay on the ground and cried out in pain, instinctively he cried out for his mother.

Ye Zhongming clenched his fist in disdain.

Puppet Technique needed a guy that was about to die. Using this Yang Shilong as a material was putting this scum to use.

En?

Ye Zhongming didn't punch him. He just moved a little and jumped into the pit.

He was able to pick up some movement from this place.

He glanced across the rotting bodies and found the source of that sound.

A few seconds later, he found it.

This corpse was a little obvious.

It was at the top of the pit and so it was most recent. It was naked and although none of its skin was perfect, one could still see that it was a girl.

Ye Zhongming thought about it. He held his breath and jumped in.

He flipped this female body and was stunned. With his perfect memory, he recognised this person.

It was the girl that was taken away by Yang Shilong and his friend from the market!

Although he guessed what would happen to her but when he saw the bruises on her body as well as the numerous bloody holes and deep cuts on her private areas, he was furious.

You could kill someone but don't torture them.

Ye Zhongming killed people too but he wouldn't torture them. This wasn't a sign of strength but a perverted act to bully the weak.

Her eyes were opened wide and her breathing got weaker as she would die at any moment. What Ye Zhongming felt weird was that she was still conscious. She felt like someone had come to her side and she actually turned her eyes towards Ye Zhongming.

But Ye Zhongming who had seen many dead people knew that it was useless even if Park Xiuying used Cleansing Dew on her. Her body and organs were about to collapse and she was definitely dead.

She moved her fingers which Ye Zhongming saw. He thought about it and carried her out from the pit.

When she saw Yang Shilong in pain on the ground, her eyes lit up. The hatred was something that even shocked Ye Zhongming.

This hatred was like when one hated someone to the bone and wanted to eat their flesh.

Seeing those wounds on her body, Ye Zhongming understood what she felt.

“I need a person that is about to die to complete a skill.”

Ye Zhongming said to her, “I don’t know what would happen to you, but at least, you would use another method to stay alive. You have much more rights to do that as compared to him.”

She rolled her eyes. Who knew if she could understand Ye Zhongming’s words.

He placed the woman into the blood pond and took out 3 liters of zombie virus from the space crystal to inject into her veins.

After which, he tossed five level two crystals into the pond and also a one star potion to pour into her mouth. He then activated the skill.

His mental energy that was not full was sucked dry. The blood pond also started to rumble like there was a fire beneath which caused the whole pond to boil.

Her body slowly sunk into the bond. The level two crystals also sunk down. Black energy seeped out from the crystals and wrapped around her body like many chains.

Shortly after, white light was released from her body. Even when she sunk into the pond it still didn’t hide this light. The entire pond turned a little translucent, even lighting up half of the vehicle.

The woman did some weird movements and slowly she started to spin. It wasn’t quick but it was rhythmic. The blood turned into a whirlpool.

Ye Zhongming noticed that the blood was reducing. The five crystals were gone too and turned into black chains that wrapped around her body, turning into mysterious patterns.

Whirlpool, blood, woman, turned into a terrifying scene...

Chapter 157: Iron Zombie formation

Ye Zhongming just slowly watched these things unfold. On the contrary, Yang Shilong who was in pain was shivering in fear.

He recognised this woman. Yesterday, his partner and he bullied her and even personally tossed her into the pit.

What he didn't expect was for her to actually not die after one day since she was on the verge of death the day before.

The problem was Ye Zhongming actually knew about what happened between her and him. Moreover, what should be his was now given to her so what value did he have now?

He felt a chill down his spine and even temporarily forgot about the pain of his broken bones.

Ye Zhongming looked at the blood pond. When the fresh blood was mostly absorbed, he used Moon Edge to slice open his palm and drip some blood into her mouth. This situation continued for a while. Due to the evolved’s quick healing ability, Ye Zhongming had to slice two more times to satisfy the requirements of the skill.

The fresh blood turned into veins when they flowed into her mouth, spreading out from her mouth and quickly merging with the black lines outside of her body. Through the skin, they formed similar patterns.

Until both lines were exactly the same did her body give out an eye-catching blood glow.

Ye Zhongming took two steps back and he closed his eyes instinctively. He was on guard in case any accidents occurred.

Pa, pa, pa.

Footsteps could be heard from the direction the blood pond. The blood light was weakening so when Ye Zhongming looked, he saw a female walking out from within. Her looks were the exact same as the woman that Ye Zhongming used as a material and whose body was tossed here.

The difference was that she didn't look like she was about to die like before!

She was a little taller and her head was at the same height as Ye Zhongming. The skin that was abused by those guys until the point where there was nothing healthy was now healed up and all her wounds were gone.

But there wasn't a glow that belonged to human females. It looked like dry cement, it was white along with a bit of green with black patterns all over. The patterns were all over her naked body and made her look like a piece of art.

This body that was injected with unknown powers seemed really perfect. Her plump chest and waists looked really luxurious. Even with those patterns, she could attract any guy. But her abnormal skin reminded Ye Zhongming that she was not a normal person. Even, she couldn't be considered a person.

That beautiful face that attracted Yang Shilong was now covered in black patterns. Her eyes were now blood red.

The most eye catching would be her long hair. They were red in color and it was even brighter than blood.

Ye Zhongming saw the woman who walked out from the blood pool and she saw him too. Both their gazes intersected before Ye Zhongming felt an explosion in his head. It was as if something new had appeared.

This explosion and pain lasted for two seconds before Ye Zhongming realised what was in his consciousness.

That was a magical feeling that he didn't know how to describe. If he had to use words to express it, it was like the consciousness of this woman had merged into his mind such that he had a remote control. Through his mind, he could control her.

Ye Zhongming didn't panic. Although he felt a little uncomfortable with this new feeling, but he knew that this was a part of the technique.

The female puppet walked slowly behind Ye Zhongming. She stood there quietly like a wooden dummy.

When they were close, Ye Zhongming realised that her body had far more changes than what she saw.

What Ye Zhongming was most interested in was that the patterns weren't pure black but there were small specks. These specks were really small and could only be noticed at a close distance.

Moreover, they weren't dense... On close look... They looked similar to the demon crystals.

Apart from that, Ye Zhongming noticed that her arms were special. From a human standpoint, her fingers were really sharp. Especially the nails, although they weren't as sharp as blades, but they were similar to drills. When her hands were by her side, her fingers arced and it gave one a sense of power.

These were hands that were made for killing.

Finally was the green and white skin. The color and texture made Ye Zhongming think back to the stone skin technique he saw in his last life. Although her skin did not give as heavy a feeling but it was similar. Ye Zhongming touched it and it was ice cold. It probably had the strong defensive ability.

This was an Iron Zombie?

Ye Zhongming walked around this woman and reached out to feel her breathing and meridians. Her pulse was still there but it was a little weird. There were only a few beats a minute and each beat was very powerful. But she didn't breathe at all.

Ye Zhongming didn't know whether or not this Iron Zombie was alive or dead.

One needed mutated animal blood, zombie virus, demon crystals, evolution potion, and master's blood to create a puppet. Ye Zhongming wasn't a scientist so he couldn't understand the reaction but looking at how this woman was now, he guessed that the zombie was made with a combination of mutated animals and zombie factors.

Ye Zhongming tried to communicate with it but it didn't reply. But when he gave it orders, the zombie would do so without any hesitation. There was a benefit to this which was that he was able to give it commands very easily. No matter what he needed it to do, he just had to think about it and it would understand.

Although there were many things he didn't understand, but Ye Zhongming didn't care. He just needed to know how strong she was.

He looked at Yang Shilong and felt like he was a decent test subject.

He gave an order and the zombie moved. She was extremely quick and in a blink, she was right beside Yang Shilong. Her right hand stabbed into his chest. The bones of the evolved were as weak as a piece of paper in front of this hit.

Yang Shilong wanted to cry out loud but he didn't have any strength. His body shook and his heart was crushed mercilessly. Moreover, the zombie who had completed the kill actually stared right at his face. She opened her beautiful lips and bit his neck, absorbing his fresh blood.

It was as if she was venting the hatred that she felt...

Chapter 158: Little gains

"Brother Ye has left for so long, is he okay?"

Da Ming was asked to link things up. He waited for a long time after the group arrived here but did not see Ye Zhongming. Which was why he asked Little Tiger.

“What would happen to boss?” Little Tiger wiped Moon Edge carefully. He really loved this blade.

“Little Tiger, sister treats you well usually right?” Xia Lei walked over and sat next to him. She had a big smile on her face.

Little Tiger turned around right away and placed Moon Edge beneath his body. He placed his hands on his ears and said, “That is a whole different story, Sister Lei I know what you want to do. Let me tell you, it won’t happen.”

Everyone laughed seeing Little Tiger’s reaction. Xia Lei knocked his head helplessly, “I learned how to use a blade, did you? Can you be as good with it as me?”

“I did learn, you taught me.” Little Tiger replied.

“You are going to anger me to death!” Xia Lei kicked him. There was nothing she could do about him.

Xia Lei learned how to use blades from a famous blade user. In terms of movement, Mo Ye might be on her level but Xia Lei was better when using blades. Some of the stuff that Mo Ye and Little Tiger learned was also from her.

“Isn’t it just a blade?” Another voice rang out from the other side of the wall. Everyone stood up and saw another person behind Ye Zhongming.

He passed a Moon Edge to Xia Lei. This was one that he had crafted after heading out.

Xia Lei took it and she was delighted. This thing was the mark of this team just that she was embarrassed to ask for it.

“Who is she?”

Everyone didn’t notice the weird-looking Iron Zombie, they just thought she was a person. Liang Chuyin asked right away.

Ye Zhongming didn’t reply. He just looked outside the wall and said to everyone, “We will head down from here. Make some noise on the sides and then toss the meat down.”

Ye Zhongming pointed at two areas and then said, “After attracting their attention, I will clear the zombies around to create a better environment for everyone. Just that this chance will be short so you have to be quick.”

“No matter how much all of you get, the moment you see me head back, you have to follow. Remember, we aren’t heading down to fight, we are going to pick up things.”

After saying that, everyone tossed the ropes that they prepared down. Da Ming nodded at Da Ming and this fellow ran a distance away. The people there started to make noise to attract the zombies around before they threw some meat down too.

Ye Zhongming climbed the rope down after seeing the zombies head to the sides. The Iron Zombie was more decisive and just jumped off the walls.

“Damn, what is that thing? Her eyes are red and her hair is red too!” Little Tiger looked at the person that jumped down and noticed what was abnormal about her.

“She looks like a zombie but she is controlled by Ye Zhongming.” Le Dayuan guessed.

They heard a whistle and they stopped discussing. They switched on the torchlights that were on their shoulders and started to dig into the crystals.

Ye Zhongming who was first down started to clear the zombies and mutated life forms nearby.

Ye Zhongming killed zombies while paying attention to the Iron Zombie. He noticed that this fellow was a human sized weapon. Her hands were able to smash zombie heads. If she thrust, she could break skulls relatively easily.

Moreover, the Iron Zombie was really strong. A mutated boar was ripped in half by her and its hundred kilogram body was tossed far away.

The weird skin had high defence. Be it zombie teeth or claws, even the bites and hits from mutated animals couldn't cause much damage. Only when a level two Beast Zombie bit its shoulder did two shallow holes appear but no blood flowed out.

If it was an evolved, even a two star evolved, that bite would mean that the person would lose a piece of flesh. But the zombie just suffered from a small injury.

Ye Zhongming deduced that the iron zombie's skin was similar to a three star evolved and was slightly stronger than him.

Of course, although the iron zombie relied on its body, using its strength and speed to kill and not having any talent skills, but its combat strength was quite decent. It was stronger than normal one star evolved and even two star evolved without any jobs and would find it hard to deal with.

Although this was his second life, but Ye Zhongming was still impressed with this skill. It seemed like he had missed out on many good things in his last life.

With such a strong helper, Ye Zhongming found it easier to fight. But although it was strong but it fought too valiantly. In just a short while, the clothes he found for her were ripped apart and it was covered in fresh blood and flesh.

“Go!”

Sensing that there were more and more zombies around, Ye Zhongming gave the order to retreat. Everyone used the ropes to get back up. Once Ye Zhongming was up, they kept the ropes.

As for the Iron Zombie, she used her hands to climb the ruins and with just a few jumps and she was up.

Ye Zhongming gave a simple explanation about the Iron Zombie and that shocked everyone with how mysterious he was.

After the first experience, everyone was more and more smooth in doing this. Until the early hours of the morning, they had picked up most of the crystals.

They collected a total of 1300 level one crystals and over 20 level two ones!

Everyone's eyes lit up when they saw the crystals on the table.

This thing was like money. Even when you have it, it didn't stop you from loving it.

“Le Dayuan, test your luck. Let's see how many potions you can get.”

Le Dayuan was delighted. Everyone was happy to spin the wheel. This future crystal weapon grandmaster was no different. He was delighted and went to spin the wheel. Little Tiger, Liang Chuyin and Park Xiuying also went over to take a look.

After half an hour, the few of them returned in glee. They brought a total of 20 one star potions as well as a box of usable items.

On average, 60 crystals could get them one one star potion so their luck was still decent.

Next would be these 20 over level two crystals. Everyone rubbed their palms. They hadn't spun a level two wheel yet.

Chapter 159: Problem

The level two wheel was really attractive for anybody at this point, even Ye Zhongming was no exception.

If he could get one level two potion then the team would definitely get much stronger.

But Ye Zhongming had been through this before so he didn't hold much hope.

“Save some for use, we can spin three times. Who wants to try their luck?”

Ye Zhongming stood beside the wheel and said to his team.

“Me!”

“Me too!”

“Can I try?”

This chance was rare so they wanted to try their luck. Little Tiger, Liang Chuyin even Le Dayuan was tempted to try.

“One person once.” Ye Zhongming tossed the level two crystals to three of them. They walked over and looked at the various rewards with curiosity.

Actually not only them, Mo Ye, Xia Lei and Park Xiuying were looking at the wheel with great interest.

Little Tiger was the first person to spin. After Ye Zhongming used the Elimination Technique, the needle brushed past the level two potion. Little Tiger squatted on the ground and cried while holding his head.

Liang Chuyin was the second. Her luck was slightly better and got an immunity potion. Although it was not bad but her face was still filled with regret.

Le Dayuan was more relaxed than the two of them but his desire still betrayed him. The needle stopped on a beer. The future crystal weapon father smiled in embarrassment.

This was the gachapon. You fought and risk your life to get the high level crystals but it would still give you some trash.

This situation would get better as the level of the gachapon improved but that was relative. The chance of the reward exceeding what you put in was something that happened with a small occurrence.

Everyone looked at the evolution potion on the wheel and sighed. They could only wait for the next time.

Although they weren't so lucky to get the two star potion, but they had obtained over 20 potions and immunity potions. Ye Zhongming told Jia Ming to find a few people who performed well today.

Those people were really excited. Among them were those who followed Ye Zhongming at the battle of the ruins and they were really thankful to Ye Zhongming. This guy's words allowed them to have a chance to evolve.

Including Da Ming, 13 people were gathered in the hall.

"Everyone recognise these things." Ye Zhongming placed a row of potions in front and they shone a tempting light.

Apart from a couple who could keep calm, the other people instinctively gulped when they saw it.

"Your performance today is worthy of having these." Ye Zhongming glanced at all of them, "But these were gained after my group and I risked our lives to pick them up. So we can give you all some potions but tomorrow you have to head out to fight alongside us."

Jia Ming announced that they needed a thousand strong man to head out to fight. Naturally, the people here knew about that.

This was a voluntary thing but with the temptation of the evolution potion as well as food and water, many people decided to take a gamble.

Ye Zhongming's words were undoubtedly holding them hostage. Many of them were affected but facing the potions, they couldn't resist at all and agreed without thinking much.

Ye Zhongming nodded and told Jia Ming to pass those potions down.

After these people got the potions, they all injected it without hesitation. After a moment, there were 13 more one star evolved in the room.

Da Ming was one of them. He clenched his fists and felt the power in his body. His excitement was easily seen on his face.

"Everyone head back to rest, we will head out at first light."

Ye Zhongming gave instructions and everyone left. Jia Ming, Da Ming and Li Qiang remained.

"Brother Ye, we prepared most of the stuff you need but there is still a gap to the number you wanted. This is basically what the base could do."

Liang Chuyin felt that calling him Brother Ye was too much so he forced others to call him Brother Ye. So others agreed and followed.

Jia Ming was a little ashamed to say that and he felt embarrassed.

“No worries, having something is better than having nothing. We can head out tomorrow to take a look.” Ye Zhongming waved and expressed that it was okay.

“Tomorrow Jia Ming stay back. Boss Li, you send Jia Ming some people to ensure the safety of the base after we leave.”

Li Qiang nodded. After seeing how strong Ye Zhongming was, he was filled with respect for him. He followed whatever Ye Zhongming said.

“If everything was smooth then we might get rich tomorrow at this time.”

.....

Night passed quickly. At first light, Ye Zhongming and his team stood at the east region exit. This was the gathering point for today.

Da Ming was up early and he organised many people to move Ye Zhongming’s items over. Li Qiang also brought many people over to guard the area.

As the sky lit up, many survivors rushed over and were chosen by the team. Only a strong young man could be selected. To attract more people, each person could get a full breakfast. Their families could get some decent density porridge.

The base used up a large portion of the base’s grain for this operation.

Under the threat of hunger, many people were willing to risk their lives for food. There were even some slightly older people who wanted to go but they didn’t fit the requirements. That caused a bit of commotion but that was suppressed by evolved and guns.

At six, the thousand were mostly chosen. Ten more minutes and it would be enough. For the 6 digit number of people in the base, a thousand wasn’t much.

“Why isn’t Jia Ming here?”

Da Ming saw that people were mostly chosen but he didn’t see Jia Ming here so he was anxious.

Ye Zhongming laughed coldly. He counted the number of evolved and knew why Jia Ming was delayed.

As expected, when Jia Ming appeared his expression wasn’t good.

“What happened? Did something happen?” Da Ming and Jia Ming were close so he asked him right away.

Jia Ming tapped his shoulder and dragged him to Ye Zhongming, “Brother Ye, this is a little tough.”

Everyone knew what happened after Jia Ming described it. Apart from Ye Zhongming who didn’t have any expression, the others including Li Qiang were furious.

Chapter 160: Only solution

After those evolved went back, their mentalities changed. Some of them didn’t go to rest like the others did and did many other things.

Those things were bad without exception.

Some went back and killed people. The reason was that those people stole their food when they were still a normal person. Those people even hurt their families. Now that they evolved, they wanted to take revenge.

Some went to steal and some even had fun with girls.

Apart from that was the fact that they didn't want to take the risk after they evolved. They wanted to remain safe in the base. They forgot about all the promises that they made yesterday.

Out of the 13 new evolved, only 7 came. Close to half of them weren't there.

Jia Ming went to find them but there was only one outcome. They didn't want to come! Their attitude was really bad and they even threatened him. They told him to scram if not they would teach him a lesson.

Jia Ming didn't deal with such things before and he was used to listening to Ye Zhongming's instructions so he returned.

"You don't know how to deal with it?"

Ye Zhongming was a little unhappy.

"I told you that you are in charge of this base. You bothered about how to build the base but you didn't think about what to do if people don't listen?"

"I..." He opened his mouth. He really didn't know how to deal with such a thing.

"You must remember. There are only three ways to stop problems in this world." Ye Zhongming raised his voice a little so that people around could hear it.

"Law, interests, strength."

"To be a little more obvious, reason, money and force." Ye Zhongming looked at Jia Ming.

"There is no law and reason in the apocalypse so the only thing people care about is money and force."

"We used interests yesterday. We used potions to get them to work hard and we obtained their promise but now they have destroyed their promises. Thus there is only one way to solve this."

Ye Zhongming pointed at the gun that he gave Jia Ming, "Use this."

"You are the future owner of this place so you must let the people here know that they will die if they go against you!"

"Don't think that it is cruel. This is the best way to solve this problem. Now, Li Qiang, Little Tiger, Xia Lei and you will go find these people. Tell them that they either come here to hunt with us or they die!"

The people around were silent. They were able to hear a thick bloody scent from the words of this young man.

“Remember, if they dare to fight back, you have to kill them right away or you will be the one that dies.”

.....

Ye Zhongming rested on a building and waited for the others to return. In the middle of the empty land were the thousand chosen while survivors who came to enjoy the atmosphere were all around. They were all waiting for Jia Ming and the others to return.

A gunshot spread from the north. Everyone knew that something occurred there.

A few of them were back after half an hour. Jia Ming’s hand was shivering and his face had a few drops of blood but his aura had changed.

Ye Zhongming knew what that was. That was a transformation from the apocalypse. He just brought that process forward.

Four people followed behind them. One of their faces was swollen but he didn’t show any unhappiness at all.

That was because he saw someone unhappy having his head exploded.

“Don’t think that this is over. Don’t think that you guys coming here can make up for your mistakes. If you don’t perform well today and please me then I can take back what I gave you.”

Ye Zhongming said coldly to the four of them. He waved and the group set off.

Ye Zhongming walked out of the east region exit yesterday to get to the feed factory. The evolved were the first to head out and they cleared the mutated life forms around. They cleared enough space for the thousand to get out from the pipes. Many people brought what Ye Zhongming requested.

Wood, nails, iron rods, daggers, meat, axe, shovels... Even useless household electrical appliances.

This was the first time out of the base for many and they were really nervous. The entire party was totally silent and they proceeded in one direction.

After an hour, the party came to an incomplete region. Ye Zhongming looked around and decided to place the ambush spot here.

The spot was chosen so the evolved started to clear the dangers around. Moreover, there were sentries all around. Da Ming, Little Tiger etc led people to collect things that were useful for battle like sandbags, iron rods, metal pieces, abandoned cars etc. Xia Lei, Mo Ye etc led people to take the map that Ye Zhongming made to complete layers of obstacles.

Liang Chuyin and Park Xiuying helped Le Dayuan to learn how to set out traps all around which they learned from Ye Zhongming.

The traps weren’t complicated, they were like holes and tripping ropes. The complicated ones made use of simple physics or balance theories to set up traps.

Ye Zhongming demonstrated for them and they basically understood. Le Dayuan was a technical person so these were too simple for him. His few helpers and he became the core of the team in charge.

Ye Zhongming led most of them to dig holes and moats in the area. They were dug strategically. The people who were doing it didn't understand so Ye Zhongming didn't explain to them.

These were skills that he learned from his last life. Many people followed the speed and habits of the zombies to develop this ratio that could slow them down. Far into the future, these moats would become extremely complicated that it was even useful for level three zombies.

Although humans evolved slower than mutated lifeforms, but in terms of intelligence, we were far ahead. Moreover, as time went on, the gap between humans and nonhumans slowed down.

It was noon when all places followed what Ye Zhongming had planned out. Ye Zhongming ordered them to rest and have a full meal before giving them their missions.

Starting from the moat to the sides of the obstacles in the district and then to the high ground, everyone was given a role. The steps that they had to take were also explained clearly.

After this, Ye Zhongming and his team left the place and went near the base to attract the hoard.

Seeing Ye Zhongming disappear, the survivors holding all sorts of simple weapons knew that the battle was about to begin.