

Apocalypse 541

Chapter 541: limit of strengthening

During the night, although they knew that the ocean beast wave had reached a shocking number, they couldn't see clearly. Along with the battle coming suddenly, the people in the city didn't have a direct impression.

But when the sky lit up, when the sunlight shone on the area, everyone finally knew what they were facing.

Too many.

They were endless!

This phrase was often used during peacetime, but it was when people understood what it meant.

From the city to the area, spreading thousands of meters around, they could see various ocean beasts occupying everywhere. Even the skies had many mutated ocean birds circling and coldly staring at the hundreds of thousands of human survivors.

How many were there?

This was a question that everyone asked instinctively. Even Ye Zhongming was no exception. He asked himself, if he had to give an accurate number, what would it be?

But no one could answer.

“Boss, the Violent Lightning Turret has moved; it will be completed in half an hour.” Little Tiger reported the situation to Ye Zhongming, who was sitting in a pile of materials.

After the negotiation with Guang Yao, the Ying City Alliance moved to the side of the city gate facing the ocean. Sky Elephant Division was in charge of the side facing the land. The strongest factions started to defend the most dangerous areas.

Apart from Flying Sky Ship Squad, everyone in the city was willing to see the change.

Ye Zhongming stood up to stretch. He looked at the wider defense zone. Due to seeing the ocean beast wave, his bad mood recovered a little.

He used some time to slice the two Drill Ocean Metals.

This was not a simple matter. These two fellows were huge. Even with Ye Zhongming's strength, he couldn't slice them without using the Scorching Flame Technique.

Compared to Ghost Metal, it wasn't as magical, but there was a large amount. Each set was heavier than Ghost Metal. Ye Zhongming obtained ten thousand of them.

His space equipment couldn't fit them all, so he could only pile them on the wall for his men to take some of them.

“Zhongming.” Mo Ye walked over. After becoming an evolved, this previously cold female officer looked more out of this world. This might be because of her job.

“What is it?”

There were 200 sets of Drill Ocean Metal in front of him, and he was going to strengthen them to see how many higher-quality materials he could get.

“Everyone is finding it weird that they aren’t attacking. I think I found some reason.”

“Oh? Say it.”

Ye Zhongming’s hands didn’t stop. Two fist-sized metals merged into one. The new Drill Ocean Metal had a grey glow.

Mo Ye wasn’t surprised, but deep in her eyes, she was intrigued.

“We noticed that the number of ocean beasts is still increasing.”

Ye Zhongming’s hands stopped, “Still increasing?”

“En, not mentioning other places, just the region in front of us. It seemed like nothing changed, but in just an hour, it got much denser. For such a scale, even a bit of increase would mean a much higher number.”

Ye Zhongming listened quietly. Two hundred sets quickly became a hundred.

“However, Xia Bai, who went out to scout, sensed a few new strong auras. They should have been hiding in the ocean.”

He strengthened two grey pieces, and a much smaller Drill Ocean Metal appeared.

Such a situation was normal, but Ye Zhongming and Mo Ye were shocked when they saw its level. It skipped white and became a silver-grade piece of material.

This was the first time Ye Zhongming strengthened a silver piece of material. Apart from his job effects, this also showed how precious the Drill Ocean Metal was.

“This...” Mo Ye’s breathing got hurried. She knew how precious a silver material was. He saw Ye Zhongming quickly turn the 100 grey materials into 50 silver.

Excitement flashed in his eyes, and he carefully merged two silver pieces. He wanted to see if he could create something better.

But reality gave him a heavy blow.

The strengthening failed, and his face turned white.

Mo Ye held his arm and asked with concern, “Are you okay?”

Ye Zhongming shook his head. He was fine, but his mental energy suffered a blow.

It seemed like this was his limit. If he wanted to get stronger materials, his Glory Smith job had to continue to upgrade.

“Anyways, we have a way out. If the situation is bad, we can retreat. Tell our men not to worry.”

Mo Ye nodded, but she was still worried, "But if they reach a certain number, there might be a change in nature. I am afraid of our losses."

Ye Zhongming wiped the sweat off his head and saw her frown. He slapped her shoulder, "This is the apocalypse; losses are unavoidable, so don't think too much. Their numbers are increasing, but we are getting stronger. Let me make a good piece of equipment for you."

Mo Ye looked at Ye Zhongming and blinked, "Mr Ye, even if you make something good for me, you don't have to wipe your sweat on my clothes, right?"

Ah? Ye Zhongming was stunned, and then he smiled in embarrassment. He didn't notice.

Mo Ye scoffed before telling him she was waiting for her equipment before leaving.

Ye Zhongming didn't lie to her. He was planning to make something good. This confidence came from the three sets of Holy Army Coats and the 50 silver materials.

He took one grey set out and studied this famous equipment. He was impressed by the person in the resistance zone who could craft such a set.

It was really good.

"Holy Army Coat (Pass), basic three-piece set, Holy Army Upper Armor (Grey), Holy Army Ice Breaking Lower Armor (Grey), Holy Army Silent Battle Boots (Grey)."

Chapter 542: Modified Holy Army Coat

Ye Zhongming usually didn't care about the stats of grey equipment as it was useless. Low-level equipment couldn't attract his attention.

But this grey set shocked him.

"Holy Army Upper Armor: Defense 36, reduce damage taken by 5%."

"Holy Armor Ice Breaking Lower Armor: Defense 30, Ability: Ice Pattern Cross, attackers will suffer from ice damage, which would be 10% of their attack."

"Holy Armor Silent Battle Boots, movement speed +15, Ability: Silencer, footsteps will reduce based on movement speed increase. The faster you go, the softer the sound, and if you go supersonic, it would be silent."

Ye Zhongming looked at the three pieces of equipment that formed the set. He had to admit their abilities were good for a grey piece of equipment. They were definitely above average.

But it wasn't much to him. If he wanted, he could craft multiple of such equipment.

Alone, they weren't much, but together, it was what made him envy it.

"Royal Army Coat (pass), set stat 1: basic stats increase by 10%, no exact stats."

"Set stat 2, back strike; every ten hours, one can launch a back strike that combines the basic stats of all the equipment."

“Set stat 3, cloud walking, user can do a triple jump when charging, cooldown of 15 hours.”

Ye Zhongming finally knew why the coat had the fame of being a level higher than it was. These things were a perfect match with one another and could form an effect that was a grade higher.

With this grey coat as an example, if they combined, it was no different from wearing white equipment.

Ye Zhongming was not able to craft such a thing now.

Grey was grey, and white was white. He couldn't allow his equipment to have set stats even if he combined a thousand sets.

But the Holy Army Coat could.

Of course, Ye Zhongming naturally didn't want to craft a set. After all, he needed to have a unique job. He had many jobs and had lost that opportunity.

But, he wanted to learn some skills and tricks from the coat to improve his job.

Ye Zhongming analyzed it carefully. He felt like just that one job alone couldn't make the Holy Army Coat. There were some elements that he didn't understand yet.

The ocean beasts didn't attack, so he continued to study it. An hour passed, and he had to give up.

He couldn't see much from the equipment.

If he wanted such equipment, he had to nurture his smith or purchase it from the resistance zone.

Thinking about how expensive that job scroll was and about the resistance zone's real identity, Ye Zhongming was frustrated.

Did he have no fate with such a thing?

He felt regret for a few seconds before he recovered. He started to analyze if he could use his job to strengthen the Holy Army Coat.

Ye Zhongming was very careful when he modified equipment that was already formed; this was even the famous Holy Army Coat. He knew it was simple to strengthen a simple piece of equipment but tough for one with set stats. If he wasn't careful, the entire set might be wasted.

After considering all the elements, Ye Zhongming started.

He enchanted it with an ocean beast material that could increase speed, increasing the boots' stats. The color and level also became white.

Ye Zhongming relaxed when he saw the effect. He then used a metal he had before to enchant the lower armor.

The metal was white grade, and the level was slightly better than the material used for the boots.

After enchanting, it also became white, but the change in stats was more apparent.

But this joy only lasted for a second. Before Ye Zhongming enchanted the upper armor, he noticed that the set stats had disappeared.

He looked at the outer appearance, and as expected, the glow that represented its level disappeared.

Ye Zhongming's heart jumped; he had personally destroyed a Holy Army Coat set!

He didn't feel bad about the equipment themselves, but the set stats and the difficulty of getting one was something that he cared about.

After the regret was deep confusion.

What went wrong?

"Boss, the beast wave moved!"

Little Tiger pointed outside. Ye Zhongming lifted his head and saw that the wave started to move towards the city. They were slow at first, but they started to pick up.

"The Dwarf Mermaids are still leading. They seem like a huge race in the ocean."

Ye Zhongming was strong and led Cloud Peak to create many miracles. Cloud Peak members had pride in their bones. Even when facing such a wave, they could do so calmly.

Moreover, the warriors knew about their way out and were calmer. They could even talk when they dealt with the beast wave yesterday.

"Those that can jump. What did the boss say? What intestine horse?"

"I think the Nagas are quite handsome, especially those female ones. Their jewelry and equipment are different."

"Do these ocean beasts have their own sports competitions? They have different factions."

Those sounds entered Ye Zhongming's ears. He looked towards the wave that was getting close.

Each race was together... Their factions were obvious...

Words flashed in his mind, and he had an idea.

Was it because...

He did it right away. He took the remaining set. He slightly hesitated and decided to do it.

He took three silver pieces of Drill Ocean Metal.

He enchanted three pieces of drill ocean metal of the same grade and had the same stats on this set.

Ye Zhongming noticed the set wasn't destroyed like the last one!

He clenched his fist. He knew that he found a way to upgrade it!

When enchanting, he had to use the same material on each part that formed the entire set.

The reason why the previous set failed was because the materials were different.

He looked at the set that turned white and had a bold thought.

Chapter 543: Color limit and blood refining advancement

Ye Zhongming couldn't tell the special method used to craft the coat, but he had ten years of experience and was already a good smith. So, his mind had relevant information about crafting.

After seeing the set that should be silver turn to white, he recalled a method that was spread in his last life.

Color Restriction.

Simply put, special or precious equipment was restricted when they leveled, and they couldn't upgrade too much.

Ye Zhongming was unable to prove if they were right or wrong. After all, he was just an experienced evolve and could not come into contact with amazing people, much less rare jobs like smiths.

But when he saw that the three pieces of equipment only turned white when he used three pieces of silver Drill Ocean Metal, Ye Zhongming felt like the color restriction might exist.

If this theory was real, what about the other one Ye Zhongming knew about?

He wanted to test it out.

“Officer Mo, come!”

Ye Zhongming shouted, which caused the Ying City Alliance, who were nervously waiting to turn around.

Mo Ye's face turned red, and she looked at Ye Zhongming with an unfriendly gaze.

Officer Mo was the term that Ye Zhongming used to tease her. Now that she called her that in front of many people, it embarrassed her.

“What are you doing? I am very busy.” She pursed her lips and stared at Ye Zhongming.

Ye Zhongming didn't mind and smiled, “What kind of attitude is that?”

“Attitude of someone working hard but is being ordered around!” Mo Ye looked silent usually, but when she was with familiar people, especially Ye Zhongming, whom she met on the first day, she dared to say anything. She knew that Ye Zhongming wouldn't mind.

Ye Zhongming touched his nose and smiled awkwardly. He glanced at the ocean beast wave getting close and grabbed her arm, “Give me some blood.”

En?

Mo Ye was stunned. Many people who were still looking were stunned, too. They couldn't hear their words, but they could see their action.

As expected from the apocalypse. Boss Ye not only took down Zhao Xingmei but also tainted the beautiful Mo Ye.

Ye Zhongming didn't know that his actions had made him known as a pervert. His dagger cleanly sliced a small wound on her wrist.

Mo Ye didn't even move. Ye Zhongming was satisfied with her trust. After getting some blood, he told Park Xiuying to use Cleansing Dew and then told them to fight. He then continued to fiddle with the equipment.

This confused Mo Ye and Park Xiuying; they didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Would a boss do that? What did he mean by fight first?

Right when Ye Zhongming was irresponsible, the second wave of attacks began.

Ye Zhongming added Mo Ye's blood when he strengthened the Drill Ocean Metal. He also took three sets of even more precious ghost metal. While enchanting, he also wiped Mo Ye's blood on the Holy Army Coat that Little Xiu wore.

Little Xiu's coat was much better than grey.

"Royal Army Coat (Good), basic four equipment set, Royal Army Secret Pattern Upper Armor (White), Royal Army secret Pattern Lower Armor (White), Royal Army Secret Pattern Boots (White), Royal Army Secret Pattern Gloves (White)."

Royal Army Secret Pattern Upper Armor (White): Defense 71 (+21), ability: Defense. Increase defense by 30%.

Royal Army secret Pattern Lower Armor (White): Defense 65, Ability: Iron Hill. Increase the strength of the user's legs by 6%.

Royal Army Secret Pattern Boots (White): Speed +28, Ability: Energy charge. Consume mental energy to cause an energy wave with the boots as the center to deal damage and push people aside.

Royal Army Secret Pattern Gloves (White): Strength +40. Ability: Three sound. Every five hours, you can use three punches successively.

Royal Army Coat (Good), set stat 1, Secret Pattern Path: All stats increase by 10%.

Set Stat 2, Spirit Pattern Snake: All the secret patterns form into a snake. Consume mental energy to form a mist to corrode targets in a range.

Set Stat 3, Black Pattern Spear: Summon a spear that lasts for an hour and whose attack is 200% of your strength. Cooldown of an hour.

This was Little Xiu's original stats. Although its ability and set stat numbers were similar to the grey set, this was much better. Just from the secret pattern words, one knew that the smith had used much better equipment.

After the Drill Ocean Metal and Ghost Metal enchanted it, the huge change shocked Ye Zhongming.

Royal Army Secret Pattern Upper Armor (Silver): Defense 145 (+58), ability: Defense. Increase defense by 40%.

Royal Army secret Pattern Lower Armor (White): Defense 131, Ability: Iron Hill. Increase the strength of the user's legs by 10%.

Royal Army Secret Pattern Boots (White): Speed +50, Ability: Energy charge. Consume mental energy to cause an energy wave with the boots as the center to deal damage and push people aside.

Royal Army Secret Pattern Gloves (White): Strength +81. Ability: Three sound. Every five hours, you can use three punches successively.

Royal Army Coat (Silver), set stat 1, Secret Pattern Path: All stats increase by 15%.

Set Stat 2, Spirit Pattern Snake: All the secret patterns form into a snake. Consume mental energy to form a mist to corrode targets in a range.

Set Stat 3, Black Pattern Spear: Summon a spear that lasts for two hours and whose attack is 300% of your strength—Cooldown of an hour.

Set Stat 4, King Pattern Talisman: Increase the strength of Talisman Master's job skill; the extent depends on job level and evolution level.

Even if the ocean beast wave battle had started, humans shouted, ocean beasts roared, guns fired, and skills exploded. This didn't awaken Ye Zhongming from his shock. This set was too strong. The Drill Ocean Metal had greatly increased the base stats. There was also a 4th stat, which made his eyes turn red.

At the same time, it proved the other theory that he had heard-- blood refining was only suitable when using very rare materials to upgrade equipment, it was true.

Chapter 544: Cloud Peak third

This was the first time Ye Zhongming had seen a unique piece of equipment.

Right after the 4th set stat appeared, this modified Holy Army Coat became a unique Talisman Master equipment.

Ye Zhongming had heard of such equipment in his last life but never owned one. None of the people around him had owned one, either.

Who knew that he would craft one in this life?

Of course, he knew that it wasn't because of his skills. The reason was because of the Glory Smith job and the ghost metal. He also had a bit of luck and used the Blood Refining Advancement, which helped form this set.

This was Ye Zhongming's first jealousy of his subordinate's set. If this weren't female, he would take it.

He thought about the problem of Holy Army Coats in the future and didn't know when to modify one suitable for himself. He felt slightly depressed.

"Shengyuan, this set is for you."

Although the ocean beast wave was attacking the city, it wasn't time for the core members to attack. Ye Zhongming called Shengyuan over and handed the white set to his brother of two lives. As the set stats helped to increase its grade, this set's actual ability had reached silver.

Although Shengyuan had to give up on green armor, his equipment level increased overall.

This Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor was handed to Tong Hu. Ye Zhongming took good care of this short fatty who was loyal to himself.

As for the silver set that had reached green-level strength, it was given to Mo Ye. This greatly increased her combat strength.

Ye Zhongming described its stats to her. Even the always-calm female officer was emotional. Unique equipment was not something common.

Mo Ye looked at Ye Zhongming in a daze. This guy said that he would make her a set, and he did it. It was even such a good one!

She recalled that this guy had never disappointed her.

“Boss, Big Yellow is going to evolve again!”

Young Master Yun exclaimed with slight panic, drawing everyone’s attention from Mo Ye and Shengyuan’s beautiful set of equipment.

This dog was Cloud Peak’s baby. Its reputation was even higher than Ye Zhongming. Although Young Master Yun said it was about to evolve, everyone was still worried and needed the experienced Ye Zhongming to take a look.

“After it ate two ocean beasts, it ran here and stopped moving. But its breathing is quite normal, and it has no injuries on its body.”

Ye Zhongming looked and saw that Big Yellow was indeed about to evolve. Everyone was at ease.

Big Yellow was originally the highest-level lifeform in Cloud Peak. It was on the verge of level six evolution when Ye Zhongming returned from the Secret Realm. It would have evolved long ago if not for the Glory Army injuring it.

After Ye Zhongming returned, he used Saint water to cure the corrosive wound caused by White Robe. After this period, it had recovered. With Ye Zhongming’s special care, it ate many Purple Ink Urchins and two ocean giant essence areas. It was naturally about to evolve.

“Xia Bai, send a team to guard Big Yellow. Shengyuan, stay here and take a look.”

Xia Bai’s team of elites, along with Shengyuan, who wore the Holy Army Coat. Such a formation was enough to protect Yellow Ball.

The battle on the wall became intense. The ocean beast wave paid a huge price before they got near the walls, and they started to siege.

“Mo Ye, time to test your new equipment?”

Ye Zhongming looked at the beast wave and suggested.

Mo Ye nodded. She was itching to go.

She activated her job, and a giant yellow talisman appeared in the sky.

Apart from the original yellow color, there were eye-catching red patterns. This was different from the red in ink; these were thicker and more exquisite. These should be the changes caused by the set stat.

“Sharp Wind Talisman!”

Mo Ye activated her job skill, and a giant wind blade fired from the talisman, slashing down the wall.

The giant commotion shocked those on the wall.

Everyone looked and saw that the wind blade left a dozen-meter crack. The beasts that were in that position were sliced into two.

So strong.

Ye Zhongming was shocked.

He had seen her use this before. Honestly, he didn't think much about it. It took a long time to fire one sharp wind blade, and the attack wasn't quick, so it was easy to block.

But this time, when Mo Ye wore the modified Holy Army Coat, with the set stat, her five-star evolved level and Basic Talisman Master job caused the wind blade fired to shock Ye Zhongming.

This was the charm of set stats.

"Damn!" Little Tiger muttered. If this wind blade hit his body... He shuddered. He felt like even if he had the silver Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor, he would be badly injured.

Mo Ye saw that her job skills had become so strong that she was extremely excited.

The Sharp Wind Talisman didn't disappear, but a yellow talisman appeared beside it. It was similar but was slightly green.

Giant Wood Talisman.

A giant piece of wood appeared. It was thicker than the one used on Sky Elephant Division. This time, it didn't smash down vertically but dropped horizontally.

The 30-meter-long wood smashed onto the ground. Those ocean beasts that couldn't dodge were pressed into meat paste. It rolled forward, and those it touched all died. Many talent skills hit the wood, but apart from some that caused shrapnels to fly, it couldn't stop this crazy fellow.

When Mo Ye retracted the wood due to mental energy constraints, it was 100 meters out. The place it crossed was devoid of life!

Those on the wall were tongue-tied. They only had one thought when they looked at Mo Ye.

Apart from Xia Bai and Ye Zhongming, she was unbeatable in Cloud Peak!

Chapter 545: Black smoke outside

Mutated lifeforms had intelligence and instincts.

Maybe because of the strict level of suppression between one another, they had no choice but to listen to orders. But at specific periods, their instincts would still show.

For example, fear.

Mo Ye's attack was too threatening. Along with Liang Chuyin, Park Xiuying, etc., controlling the Violent Lightning Turret to attack, there was an empty zone in the beast wave. Tens of thousands of

lives were taken away. These corpses had neurological twitches, but that was their final movement on earth.

The entire beast wave paused. Anyone who saw that would have a weird feeling. It was as if a giant wave just stopped in front of you.

When they attacked, it didn't feel as strong as before.

There was a break in the series of attacks. Like the one at night, although some beasts got up the walls, there was no support, and the Ying City Alliance easily killed them.

A weird voice stopped those behind.

This wall part was the first where the beast wave stopped attacking. Only half an hour had passed since the attack started.

Although Ying City's side quietened down, the beast wave continued to attack the others. It was as if they would win in the next second.

Seven mid-sized squads were defending a part of the west wall. Some of the few factions even had hatred with one another.

This was a peculiar matter. Usually, people might become enemies because of a small matter. They might fight in a bar because of a minor issue and find a way to kill each other. The pressure to survive in the apocalypse turned many people into a demon.

But now, facing a common enemy, no one dared to scam each other. No one took a step back. Courage, a habit in the apocalypse, allowed the evolved to fight to the death.

This was the conflicting part of human nature and gave humans our light.

Everyone understood a theory. If they retreated, others would, too, and death would descend on all of them. If they gave their all, others would have to do so, and they might have a chance to live.

Many people didn't trust the humans fighting on the wall; they trusted their own hearts and abilities.

“Zi zi!”

There was a weird expression. A few parts of the wall were hit by this explosion, and the mutated lifeforms were killed. The defending troops took back the wall and regained the advantage.

Many people looked instinctively and saw a team of hundreds wearing white equipment, retracting their hands. They took more black stuff from their pockets and tossed it at the ocean beast wave.

The ear-piercing explosion occurred once again. More parts of the beast wave were cleared up. From the wall, it was as if the beast wave was balding in some areas.

The defending troops were stunned and didn't know where these people came from and how they could get such strong weapons. But some sharp ones recognized them from Ying City. The core was from the organization called Cloud Peak.

These hundred people tossed two rounds of that crystal grenade before changing weapons. They took out a similarly weird gun and fired those beasts below. The strong firepower was even stronger than the thousands of those defending. This region of ocean beasts was cleared just like that.

Next, while the defending troops were tongue-tied, this team left.

Such a situation occurred on all parts of the walls apart from those that the Sky Elephant Division was in charge of. Ying City Alliance was not under pressure, so the Cloud Peak core split into many groups and supported others. They could be seen anywhere that was in danger.

The strength of Cloud Peak and the Ying City Alliance Army was ingrained in all their minds.

Although Sky Elephant Division didn't find it as easy as Cloud Peak, they were better prepared this time, so they weren't under as much pressure. Guang Yao, Little Xiu, etc leadership level didn't have to attack. They observed the situation while also seeing the Cloud Peak elites that were running about.

"What are they doing? Are they really that nice?" Little Xiu looked at the Cloud Peak squad suspiciously.

The negotiation with Ye Zhongming left a deep impression on her. That guy was very sharp and didn't hold back at all.

Guang Yao glanced, but he didn't mock them as Little Xiu did; he just frowned and contemplated.

"Uncle Bao saw those crystal weapons, and he had no idea. He had totally no clue at all."

Little Xiu was stunned when he heard those words. Uncle Bao was Grandmaster Sha's disciple, a famous smith in the T1 Resistance Zone. He had no clue?

She didn't believe Ying City's technological level would be above the resistance zone. Those crystal weapons were obviously man-made and not from the wheel.

"Seems like we need to get those guns for Grandmaster Sha to study."

The two stopped for a moment and considered how to get those guns.

They couldn't just steal it. Not to mention, they might not be able to beat them; the current situation didn't allow for such internal strife.

Cloud Peak would disagree if they traded, so what?

"That Ye Zhongming gives me a feeling." Guang Yao said suddenly, "He is here to make money."

Although Little Xiu didn't listen to orders sometimes, but she trusted Guang Yao's words. She also realized something.

"You are saying, they are doing this for.. Money?"

Guang Yao nodded, "We will know when this wave retreats, that guy... Is not so simple."

When the higher-ups in Sky Elephant Division talked about Ye Zhongming, the Ying City Alliance defense region noticed a special situation.

Ye Zhongming was called over.

"Smoke pillar?!"

He was confused. He looked at the black smoke in a direction and didn't know why such a thing would appear.

The ocean beasts couldn't have made such a thing; only humans could.

Was the person sending a signal? Or asking for help?

Little Peng's image flashed in his head, and he punched the wall.

"Xia Bai, follow me!"

Chapter 546: Beach

Little Peng wasn't in a good state.

His battle pet, Black Hatred, covered him, and he wanted to return to the center city. But things weren't as simple as he thought. Things were going well but became tough when the beast wave started to retreat.

He feared being noticed, so he had to hide under his battle pet. He could do so for a short time, but there would be a problem as time passed.

What he worried about was relieving himself.

He hid under his ocean beast, which was only to cover his body and scent. But the moment he relieved himself, any foolish ocean beast would realize the problem.

But there were ocean beasts all around, and there was no space. He wanted to go through the beasts, but even if Black Hatred covered for him and moved slowly, even if he was an evolved, the thin air made it tough for him.

It was still okay when they moved as there would be some air space. But once the beasts stopped, Black Hatred had to stop to avoid getting noticed. Little Peng entered this tough situation where he had to reduce his breathing.

With much difficulty, the ocean beast wave started to siege again. He thought the tough moments were over, but the region that he was in was ordered to move back by a strong beast.

When he received the news from Black Hatred, he nearly fainted.

He went through so much hardship, and the center city was right ahead, but he had to go back.

So he took the risk and told Black Hatred to move the other way.

This independent action was noticed. A level-six ocean beast leader charged at Black Hatred furiously. It decided to consume a subordinate that didn't listen to orders.

Little Peng was exposed. He would have been eaten if he wasn't smart and took the chance to escape.

The appearance of a human drew their rage, and they all chased Little Peng. He was forced onto the roof of an abandoned building. He knew that he had his back against the wall and immediately fired a flare that he had given previously.

Then... He relieved himself and waited for death.

One had to say that the ocean beast siege gave him some time to live. There weren't many beasts that chased him; apart from that level-six mutated turtle, there weren't any strong ones.

The mutated turtle was a little slow. After Little Peng released the flare, that fellow was a few dozen meters from this building.

But even then, he knew that this was his last few minutes on earth if nothing went wrong.

If his emotions hadn't drawn him out of the city, he might still be fighting now in the center city. That was much better than waiting to become the food of that turtle.

There was an explosion, and the entire building shook. A side on the east caved. That level six mutated turtle knocked into the building. After it realized it couldn't climb up, it started knocking into the building.

It had the right and the power. Maybe this building already hit by the ocean beast wave would fall in just a couple of times.

Right when Little Peng was in despair, he saw two figures getting close.

The feeling he had was indescribable. This was the first time he knew what it was like to feel saved.

This was also the first time he witnessed Ye Zhongming's strength.

The level six mutated turtle that was so strong that he could only wait for death against was easily killed by the two. A group of unknown mutated lifeforms also killed the hundreds of ocean beasts that followed behind.

"Why are you outside?"

Ye Zhongming smiled at the stunned Little Peng and tapped his shoulder.

This unknown feeling of familiarity returned to his body.

"That..." He hesitated. He thought about how he came to find Ye Zhongming's help, so he said immediately, "I felt a mysterious power calling me, or rather, calling my battle pet. I think there is something there that can let us get strong quickly."

Ye Zhongming was stunned. He didn't bother to clear the blood and flesh on his body. He recalled the unconfirmed news that he got from this brother in his last life.

Was it real?

Ye Zhongming suppressed his beating heart and looked around. He grabbed Little Peng's shoulder, leaped off the seven-story building, and ran towards the ocean.

Mo Ye looked at the disappearing figures. Although she was angry at his actions, which she thought were irresponsible, but she was still worried.

But she kept her emotions. She knew that the defense would be down to her during this period.

Two people led little Peng, and he witnessed what being strong was.

Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai didn't use any skills. They relied on their weapons and own strength to open up a path.

Actually, they didn't need to use skills because they didn't want to attract attention. Since they decided to see what was calling Little Peng, Ye Zhongming felt it was better to be low profile.

Of course, he was afraid that he would draw stronger life forms. Although Xia Bai and him were strong, they weren't invincible.

The ocean beast wave continued. Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai used this as cover to get close to the beach. They followed Little Peng's directions and needed a few minutes to get out and reach a safe place.

But accidents always occur at such a moment. When Xia Bai and Ye Zhongming broke through the wave, they saw a black monster looking at the three of them.

Little Peng shook. Fear surged into his heart.

This monster was too big!

The three of them didn't notice it before because its entire body was under the sand, and the part revealed as only three meters tall.

But when they appeared, it slowly pulled itself from below. The trio realized it was not shorter than the ocean giant when its thick white tentacles appeared on the beach. It was a level-seven beast.

Moreover, the three saw something unbelievable on its thick black stomach.

This giant ocean beast had two demon crystals!

Chapter 547: Xia Bai exploding emotions

Even if Ye Zhongming had lived before, he had never seen such a weird situation.

This had broken what he knew about the apocalypse.

A mutated lifeform with two demon crystals?

Such a thing was unheard of.

Ye Zhongming felt like things had exceeded his expectations.

"Is it him?"

Ye Zhongming had to ask Little Peng if the power that attracted him came from this fellow. If it was, then it could only mean that he was trapped.

"No, not it..." Little Peng frowned and sensed for a moment, "But I sense some of that aura on its body."

Little Peng touched Black Hatred's cold body and tried to find the source of that power.

No?

Ye Zhongming squinted his eyes. Was this beast one of the causes of the ocean beast wave?

"Just kill it."

Xia Bai gave her a simple interpretation of the situation.

Ye Zhongming smiled bitterly, "That seems like the only way."

When the few of them were discussing, that giant monster moved. Its target was obviously the three of them.

Its body had hundreds or even thousands of giant tentacles. Just one moved and they were like arrows that smacked towards the evolved.

A scream filled their ears and made them feel like vomiting.

Mental, along with physical attack, was the attack style that humans hated.

Ye Zhongming bit his teeth, and blood filled his mouth. He pulled Little Peng and Xia Bai out of the attack range.

Be it Ye Zhongming or Xia Bai, their agility and speed were quite good. Even then, they were barely able to dodge its attacks.

But before they could heave a sigh of relief, the tentacles grew longer, wrapping them up.

Ye Zhongming carried Little Peng right away, and it looked weird.

With Little Peng's level, he would die instantly if the tentacles wrapped around him.

But the situation continued to worsen. The battle had just started, and they were on the verge of death.

Xia Bai's black scythe landed from above. In the instance of being bound, she could only use the momentum strike. The sharp blade slashed the tentacles and sliced a few of them. But they weren't the ones around their bodies.

The black scythe fell and stuck into the beach.

Xia Bai's eyes turned hollow, and she entered her bloodline form.

Although it was a short clash, Xia Bai knew she had met a strong enemy. This fellow was stronger than those that she faced in the Competition Death Wheel Space.

Ye Zhongming wouldn't give up either. He used Python God Finger. His finger moved, and it hit the tentacle that was around Little Peng and himself.

Liquid spurted out, and the tentacle shook violently before going loose. Ye Zhongming kicked Little Peng and sent him to a relatively safe space.

Ye Zhongming worried about too many things when Little Peng was here.

After giving him that kick, Ye Zhongming started to counterattack.

He didn't use Moon Edge. He used a combination of Crystal Energy Demon Gun and the crystal grenades.

This unknown monster gave him a huge sense of danger. Especially its two demon crystals, which told him that he had faced a special lifeform.

Rare things were precious. If this was used on mutated lifeforms, precious meant dangerous.

Ye Zhongming didn't joke about his life, so he chose the most explosive combination.

The tentacles broke under the explosion of the crystal grenade.

The giant beast gave out a loud roar, which caused many attacking beasts to turn their heads. After seeing that it was from this monster, they turned back.

After that furious roar, the pain on its body didn't drop and showed signs of getting more and more painful. That human had used some weapon to slice through its defense and fire into its body.

This was the first time that the beast felt fear.

The two demon crystals fired two light rays. Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai didn't notice, and when the light wave covered their bodies, it was too late to dodge.

"Your sister!"

Ye Zhongming cursed.

It was as if its tentacles were endless. Its body had an advantage, so its tentacle was the size of a human's body. Even if Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai used the gun and scythe to attack and break some of them, it didn't show signs of reducing.

The weird glow covered them. The two of them realized that they found it hard to move. It was as if they were in glue; each movement became slow.

Those tentacles that were soft and bouncy changed and became sharp. A copper color appeared on them, and a few seconds later, they turned into metal spears.

Shua shua shua!

They stabbed the two imprisoned members.

This was Xia Bai's first look of despair since that unforgettable night.

She looked at Ye Zhongming; the love and reliance on her face were not hidden. She knew that her experience meant she wasn't good enough for this guy, so her only hope was to stand behind him and protect what he wanted to protect, destroy what he wanted to destroy.

But now she realized that even though she had the highest level in Cloud Peak, she was powerless in front of this beast with two demon crystals. She couldn't even use her life to protect the guy she loved. She hated the current her; she hated the powerless her.

She opened her mouth and wanted to tell Ye Zhongming he was the only person she cared about, but she couldn't make a sound.

The current Ye Zhongming didn't notice those strong emotions. He stared at those tentacles and moved his fingers to flick something small.

There was a bright rainbow on the beach!

Chapter 548: Sky Barrier threat

Chinese people always had the habit of leaving a trump card, no matter the situation.

During peacetime, this trump card might be a connection, bank savings, or weapon. Sometimes, it was a two-faced personality.

In the apocalypse, such a habit was kept. The entire world even learned this habit. Their trump cards were all different due to the changing societal structure.

Some left a bottle of potion, some left demon crystals, some left skills, some hid their jobs...

Anyways, each person has had a trump card since the apocalypse started.

The reason why was obviously because one trump card meant a life.

So Ye Zhongming naturally did the same.

His trump card was Heaven Barrier Threat!

Although Ye Zhongming had lived another life, he didn't know why he was alive again. But he had been through a tough life, so he habitually kept a trump card.

Two months had passed since he returned from the secret realm, and he had done many things. Collect city tax, open the trading market, and occupy Ying City. This made him the Ying City King. Even that talking lady didn't dare to appear before him, much less attack Cloud Peak.

So, no matter if he wanted to admit it, he had gained many things. As for how much exactly, only he knew.

Everyone knew that Ye Zhongming was rich. For example, his job skills were upgraded, Shengyuan's job skills were upgraded, and Mo Ye's was. Yellow Ball had amassed evolution energy; Needle Birds had gained evolution energy. Cloud Peak Alliance was much stronger... All of these needed money.

But was that all? No, that was not all.

With the Ginseng Melons and Ye Zhongming's Gardener job, Cloud Peak didn't need low-level crystals. But to the current outside world, such a demon crystal was still the main currency.

Such low-level crystals were the main currency on the trading market.

Even in the apocalypse, these demon crystals were the basic unit.

Ye Zhongming turned them into his trump card.

He had the Gate of Sacrifice.

When Cloud Peak's basic strength exceeded two stars, he didn't have much use for level one and two crystals.

But be it the Puxing Town Trading Market or him earning money on his way to Cloud Port, he had actually amassed a fortune. Most of those riches were in the form of low-grade crystals.

The biggest use of these things was to be sacrificed to the Gate of Sacrifice.

Apart from that, Ye Zhongming used many channels to trade for unneeded materials. Along with these low-grade crystals, Ye Zhongming tossed them into the Gate of Sacrifice. As compared to the previous few times, Ye Zhongming was really calm. He wouldn't even look at the energy line of the gate.

Under such a relaxed state, Ye Zhongming obtained a box. It was still a small one, and there was only one item.

Heaven Barrier Threat.

Ye Zhongming was excited when he saw this unassuming glass ball. It was not because of the normal appearance but because of its name.

To Chinese people, things that had to do with Heaven were really good. Ye Zhongming naturally felt the same way.

But when he saw its function, he scoffed.

Heaven Barrier Threat? It was just equipment that pulled the target down to the same evolution level.

Moreover, the gap couldn't be more than two levels, and the enemy couldn't exceed level eight.

If there were no level restrictions, this equipment was a good weapon. Think about how a one-star evolve could pull a level-nine mutated lifeform down to the same level and then kill it.

But it had restrictions. Levels eight and nine couldn't be targets, meaning seven was the highest.

Ye Zhongming's real strength was around level seven; he had beaten a level-seven lifeform before.

To such a person, such equipment didn't have much use. He would have handed this over to the other core members if not for him being busy.

Who knew that he would actually use it today?

That weird level seven beast rendered Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai powerless. They had to admit that it was already around level eight in strength.

Although levels seven and eight were advanced lifeforms, there was only one level difference: the gap between night and day.

It was tough to advance starting from level seven, be it humans or mutated lifeforms. Not only did one have to be strong, but they also needed the average mutated lifeform level to increase to a stage where you could kill them and get enough crystals to reach the next stage.

Difficulty often represents the strength that one has. Level seven and eight, or level eight or nine. The difference in strength was terrifying.

So when the giant beast nearly as strong as a level-eight lifeform attacked, both of them who were at level-seven strength were forced to block.

Heaven Barrier Threat came to use at this moment.

A bright rainbow connected Ye Zhongming and the giant beast. That ocean beast was dragged down to level six!

Ye Zhongming didn't use a level-seven potion, so he was judged to be six-star strength.

Who was Ye Zhongming? He might not be invincible among level-seven lifeforms at the same level, but he was one of the few strongest. He could face level-six lifeforms without any problem and crush them.

Thus, the light and those tentacles turned from dangerous things into basic skills that he could break with one hit.

The battle turned into a game, and the situation flipped on its head.

Chapter 549: Second mutation

Ye Zhongming rarely met a match at the same level.

After pulling him down to his level, that dual level-seven beast lost its level advantage.

When Ye Zhongming's Moon Edge was about to stab into its body, Little Peng stopped him.

“Try this.”

Little Peng took something and passed it to Ye Zhongming.

“Taming Test Tube?”

Ye Zhongming's eyes lit up. This was a good item.

There were many ways to tame beasts. Most of them relied on equipment. But there were different types of equipment. Evolved preferred those that directly tamed the beast.

But many restrictions were based on the battle pet level, the situation, etc.

Some equipment was more special. It had restrictions but allowed some free space regarding the pet level.

An example of such was the Taming Test Tube that Ye Zhongming was holding. Its conditions were really strict and requested that the mutated beast be alive. One had to use blood and mental energy while taming it, and it needed a long time to tame...

Anyways, there were many conditions.

But the only thing that evolved was happy about was that if the taming process succeeded, the mutated lifeform's level wouldn't drop. It would maintain at the level it had when kept in the test tube.

Ye Zhongming looked at Little Peng and stabbed Moon Edge into its body. A dozen seconds later, the giant beast was about to die.

He activated the test tube, and a giant light covered the beast. But the double demon crystal fellow couldn't care about all of that. Its mind was blurring out, and it was about to die.

Its giant body quickly shrunk, and this magical scene kept everyone's eyes on it. When it turned into the size of an arm, it was sucked into the test tube.

Ye Zhongming exhaled and received some information in his mind. The first was to confirm that he would use mental energy and blood to provide it with energy. Then he saw some information.

“Level Six Copper Ink Sunflower (Second mutation), state 1: About to die. State 2, being tamed.”

“Taming time: With enough blood and mental energy, 300 hours.”

Although the introduction wasn't too detailed, it was enough to tell Ye Zhongming some things.

For example, the problem with the two demon crystals.

Second mutation?

He had heard those words before, but they were in novels he read during peacetime. He was sure he hadn't heard of this during the apocalypse.

Life... Could it mutate a second time?

Ye Zhongming felt like, after this year, the mist around the apocalypse didn't scatter. It was even getting thicker as he used his advantage to get even stronger.

This didn't feel good and it even turned his gaze more serious.

"Let's go."

Little Peng trembled. Ye Zhongming saw a huge ripple in the ocean beast wave. A batch of black things were rushing over at the three of them.

"Run!"

Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai did charge out from the wave, but it was because they were keeping a low profile. The wave was ordered to siege the city, which was why they were able to open a path.

But things were different. This wave was charging at them. Under the attacks of this group, even people as strong as Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai didn't dare to try anything. If they were surrounded, it would be a battle of attrition.

Ye Zhongming didn't want to use all his trump cards here.

The three of them ran towards a direction that Little Peng pointed to.

"I owe you one."

Ye Zhongming pulled Little Peng and said while running. The Taming Test Tube was a good thing. It should be the most valuable thing in his hands, but he gave it to him. Ye Zhongming would get a second evolution level-six lifeform if he successfully tamed it. This was not a small favor but a big one.

The three of them were quick, and when they arrived on the beach, Little Peng pointed into the distance and said that the mysterious power was there.

Ye Zhongming looked at Xia Bai. She used Darkness Calamity, and a patch of black bugs appeared to turn into a bug carpet.

"Get up."

Xia Bai stepped on the carpet. The bugs covered the three of them and carried them above the ocean.

Little Peng carried Black Hatred and looked below curiously. He didn't know what they were.

This was a simple plan that the two of them had thought about. These bugs weren't flying equipment, so they had no good idea. Flying slowly was better than entering the water.

The beast wave reached the shore, and many of them sniffed where the Copper Ink Sunflower disappeared from, like they were searching for their leader.

Some beasts charged into the ocean and chased the three of them. They weren't planning to let them go.

The beasts were fast, and the trio were slow. When the ocean beasts chased up to them, the battle started. It wasn't intense, but it continued and attracted more beasts who joined in.

Two hours had passed when the three of them arrived at the spot that Little Peng mentioned.

“There!”

Little Peng pointed at a spot and shouted.

Ye Zhongming was slightly stunned as there was a mist.

Was something magical happening in the mist? For some reason, Ye Zhongming felt like there was something there that made his heart jump.

Those beasts that were battling with them had disappeared.

“Are those ocean beasts?”

Xia Bai's sudden words caused Ye Zhongming and Little Peng to turn in her direction. They saw a black patch; if one didn't look carefully, one would think they were ripples. But on closer look, one saw they were a group of silent and orderly ocean beasts.

The two looked at Ye Zhongming and waited for his decision.

Go or not to go?

If they went, they might have to face many more ocean beasts. If they didn't, all their hard work would be for nothing.

What now?

Ye Zhongming bit his teeth. He decided to take a look.

Xia Bai was expressionless. She had to accompany him, diving into the abyss or a sea of flames. Little Peng knew it was dangerous but was unwilling to give up as the answer was right ahead.

But before the three of them got close, they felt a breeze. A moment later, a storm formed that swallowed the three of them.

Chapter 550: Noticing Ocean King Wheel

Even though you were an evolved, you were still tiny in front of nature.

In Ye Zhongming's impression, only some nine-star evolved could change the weather. That might be the only group that could go against nature.

But now, Ye Zhongming could not go against such a power.

He felt like his body was being swept into the sky. He could only pull Xia Bai's hand while she tugged Black Hatred. His battle pet wrapped little Peng.

They felt their bodies spinning vigorously. Ye Zhongming closed his eyes and relied on his senses to feel his environment.

The intense wind forced him to do so.

Fortunately, there was only ocean water in the tornado. The few of them didn't need to worry about anything else.

But Ye Zhongming was getting more and more suspicious.

Why were only a few of them swept into the tornado? What about the ocean beasts? Why weren't they swept up?

Ye Zhongming had seen how weird the apocalypse was. It was as if he had come into contact with more things since he revived.

Ye Zhongming forced his eyes open and saw that Black Hatred was an ocean lifeform; its body was more slimy. This caused Xia Bai to let go, and both Little Peng and Black Hatred flew far away.

There was nothing that Ye Zhongming could do. He could only drag Xia Bai. Black Hatred did not burden her, so she grabbed his body with two arms. The two of them stuck together and rolled in the wind.

Time passed, and Ye Zhongming felt a feeling of nausea. Only then did he realize his body stopped flying about. That power tugging him in all directions had disappeared. He floated a certain distance before falling quickly.

The two of them weren't in a good state. If they were ordinary people, they would have already died several times. This ripping power was not something that ordinary people could handle.

Although Ye Zhongming was strong, he felt powerless. He couldn't use any strength at all. It was as if the tornado had sucked all of his strength.

It was weird. Ye Zhongming didn't even need to think, and he knew the tornado wasn't ordinary.

Ye Zhongming slapped her back and told her to prepare for landing. He didn't know how high the two of them were. There was a grey blur around, and they couldn't see clearly.

But Xia Bai didn't react. Ye Zhongming lowered his head and didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

She fell asleep in his arms.

How courageous was she?

"Xia Bai!"

Ye Zhongming called out, and Xia Bai finally woke up. She looked around and understood their situation.

Xia Bai used the wind that was about to disappear to flip their positions. She was at the bottom now.

Ye Zhongming wouldn't have allowed her to succeed if this had happened any other time, but Ye Zhongming's body was out of strength. He couldn't stop her.

As she was wearing a mask, he couldn't see her expression. But there was joy in her eyes.

He sighed, and both of them fell to the ground.

Ye Zhongming felt a warm liquid spitting onto his face. His mind went blank, and he lost consciousness.

When he woke again, he saw that everything was pitch black.

Hell?

This was the first thought he had when he woke up.

In the apocalypse, falling unconscious was the same as dying.

But he reacted quickly, and he was still alive. That was because Xia Bai's body was still warm.

He climbed up. The powerlessness and pain in his body were something that he found uncomfortable.

Xia Bai was badly injured. She took most of the blow. Ye Zhongming touched her body and noticed that around seven to eight bones were broken.

The mask hung to the side, and it was bloodstained. Ye Zhongming took a look and was slightly stunned. He then took her mask off.

It was a familiar but foreign face.

The half of her face that was destroyed had already fully recovered. Ye Zhongming saw a perfect face. If not for him seeing her previous half, Ye Zhongming wouldn't have been able to recognize that she was Xia Bai, whom many people called a female devil!

He took a healing potion and forced it down her throat. This was the only thing he could do to keep her alive. Only then could he think of a way to find Little Peng and escape.

He placed Xia Bai to the side and stood up. He took a few deep breaths before he felt slightly better.

He looked around and saw that there was a giant wheel behind him.

Moreover, he had never seen it before!

He thought about that rumor, and his heart beat happily.

This was the Ocean King Wheel!

Ye Zhongming heard Little Peng mention it before. His brother was in Cloud Port and said a secret matter occurred there. After a long time, the news finally spread. If not for him sensing some things, he wouldn't have paid much attention.

After a long time of scouting, Little Peng got some rough news that a weird wheel had appeared near Cloud Port. People called it Ocean King Wheel, but he didn't know its functions, why it appeared here, who got it, etc.

When Little Peng left Cloud Port and headed to Ying City to join the squad Ye Zhongming and Shengyuan were in, people thought he was bragging when he told this story.

It seemed like whatever he said was real.

Ye Zhongming walked to the front and observed it. There was a golden crown and a blue ocean, but there were no signs of anything to spin.

When he was studying it, there was a breeze. Ye Zhongming was sensitive to it after going through the tornado. He looked around and saw that it was different.

The area around lit up. It was the moonlight that shone from above. Using this light, the area around them became grey, similar to the mist he saw. This made him think that he was in that grey mist from before.

Various-sized shadows appeared around.

Ocean beasts!

Ye Zhongming was shocked. His strength hadn't recovered, and he couldn't protect himself.

But before he could think of anything, those ocean beasts were getting out of the mist and getting close.

At the same time, moonlight shone on the Ocean King Wheel, and a golden light shone onto the ground. It was right where Xia Bai was at.