

Apocalypse 621

Chapter 621: Linhai Ghost City

How did you end up like this?

After arriving at their agreed location, Ye Zhongming saw the members waiting for him. When Little Tiger returned an hour later, his looks shocked Ye Zhongming.

Because they had been progressing faster than ordinary evolved since Cloud Peak was established, along with Ye Zhongming preparing early for the apocalypse, they had no food and water problems.

Compared to ordinary survivors who faced food and evolution problems, Cloud Peak warriors had enough food and were very clean.

Clean attire became a symbol of Cloud Peak, and everyone from Ying City knew about that.

So when he saw Little Tiger, who brought two people back with all of them so dirty, his body covered in green and purple liquid, Ye Zhongming was shocked.

Boss!

Boss!

Little Tiger smiled when he saw Ye Zhongming, and his frustrated expression reduced slightly.

People helped to clean the three of them up. Ye Zhongming knew that this scouting mission that should have been simple was not as he thought.

As expected, Little Tiger, who had taken off his equipment and was topless, described to Ye Zhongming the weird things he had seen since getting here.

Little Tiger led a few dozen and Yellow Ball here, and they thought that this was a simple mission. With his teams strength, they might be unable to do big things, but scouting for news and confirming the situation wasnt tough.

But things went against what he thought. He hadn't even entered the city after getting here a few days ago.

Right, we havent even entered.

Facing the shock of the many brothers and sisters, Little Tiger had a bitter smile. He felt embarrassed, but there was nothing he could do.

Because this city was sealed off!

I went around the city and tried other ways to enter. The seemingly open paths are all blocked off.

Get to the point!

Mo Ye was Little Tigers captain and had led him since peacetime. This kid who became more arrogant during the apocalypse still hadnt gotten out of his fear of this captain.

The key point is that this city is occupied by something which should be a mutated plant. They sealed every entrance. If you enter its territory, you will be attacked.

This unbelievable matter caused everyone to look at one another. They had spent half a day here and saw the city several times, but they didnt see any signs of mutated plants.

Ye Zhongming didnt suspect anything as he knew that Little Tiger wouldnt lie about such a thing. He had seen many things in his past life that made accepting such weird events easier.

In his last life, that Heaven Tree covered an entire city, and some flowers covered lakes. Those couldnt happen during peacetime, but they did happen during the apocalypse.

Is its evolution level high?

Liang Chuyins hands were itchy the moment she became a six-star evolved. She killed most of the high-level lifeforms on the way here. When she heard that even Little Tiger couldnt get into the city, she was tempted to try.

I dont even know their evolution level. Seeing that everyone was confused, Little Tiger continued to explain, A purple mutated plant sealed the paths. It is very long and nimble, has sharp teeth, and is very soft and agile. If it notices you, they will come out from all areas. Getting free would be hard if you get hit or wrapped. But this plant doesnt have any demon crystals.

No demon crystals?

Mutated lifeforms having demon crystals was the law of the apocalypse; how did they not have it? Was it a new species?

When humans werent on the top of the food chain anymore, they lost their control of evolution. No one could ensure that everything on the chaotic earth was progressing as they imagined. It wasnt weird that some deviations occurred.

We wanted to rush in, but we tried several times and failed. The closest we got was when Big Yellow used all his skills, but we could only get 200 meters in. As we couldnt find a way out, we had to retreat.

Little Tiger was slightly discouraged. He opened his mouth and said slowly, We lost three people that time.

The people who came with Little Tiger were the elites of Cloud Peak, and the lowest level was four-star. They came here to scout, and they were mostly agility-type survivors. Their combat strength might not be outstanding, but they were the hardest to kill during the apocalypse. To lose three people meant that this place was problematic.

There is also another weird point. Little Tigers deputy interrupted, Linhai and Cloud Port are close to the ocean, but there are no ocean beasts here. After coming here, we couldnt enter the city, so we didnt know what was happening there, but we didnt see other survivors. There arent even any zombies in the few miles around. It is so weird.

Other Cloud Peak members discovered that when they arrived, but they felt like the reason was that the path they chose was more closed-off, and other survivors might have cleared the area. Now that this brother said it, it seemed like it wasnt the case.

Little Tiger and the people who had arrived earlier told them what they had seen during these few days, which made the core Cloud Peak members more solemn.

Didnt that mean that Linhai City was a ghost town?

Even the town that Soul Merchants destroyed wasn't like this.

Everyone discussed and thought about it. They said their thoughts and views. There were many guesses, and everyone was analyzing the possibilities.

Ye Zhongming listened seriously to all their suggestions.

There were two main thoughts: to enter or not.

If they entered, naturally, they would face risks. But their morale was at its highest, and their strengths had increased. Little Tiger failed because there were too few of them. They could enter now that Cloud Peak and Ying City people were here.

Those who opposed it said that since Linhai City was so dangerous and they didn't know the situation, there was no reason to take the risk. The unknown caused many losses during the apocalypse. As for the high-tech equipment that Liu Zhenghong needed, they could just search for them slowly in the future.

Also, although there were many people here if they were compared to mutated lifeforms, 20 thousand wasn't a large number. They might get crushed by those monsters.

Ye Zhongming lowered his head and considered before standing up.

I will take a look. Wait for me.

He told Little Tiger and Xia Bai to follow him. The three of them led Yellow Ball and headed toward this ghost city.

Chapter 622: Weird Plant

The apocalypse cleared the noise of mankind. The world was quiet most of the time.

Apart from the occasional smell of rotting corpses and blood, the air quality here was at the best state.

But Linhai City was too quiet.

Ye Zhongming and the other two stood in front of a road towards the city, and they had a weird feeling.

The road was covered in holes, and there were clear signs that Little Tiger mentioned those plants. There were similar holes on both sides of the buildings, which should also be their exits.

Purple or green liquid marks were on the walls of buildings and roads. Those things should be on Little Tiger's body that splattered after he sliced those mutated plants.

The liquid shouldn't be poisonous based on the stone and soil situation.

But he always felt that the air had a stench.

This was not easy to pick up for someone like Ye Zhongming, who was used to living in the wild.

We entered from this place on the first day, but the attacks we faced were the strongest as there were too many mutated plants here. Little Tiger pointed at the road, Do you see that collapsed building? A 15-meter-long mutated plant appeared there, and that fellow forced us back.

Maybe he felt his description was insufficient to show its strength, so Little Tiger added.

Very strong.

He touched Yellow Balls smooth fur and squinted. He recalled things that happened in his last life. Shortly after, he confirmed that he hadn't heard of this. As for whether he had seen this type of mutated plant, he had to confirm it after he saw it.

Wait here, let me try. Ye Zhongming walked forward, but Xia Bai pulled him back.

Let me go.

She passed Ye Zhongming and stepped on the road in a blink.

Ye Zhongming didn't say anything and just focused.

When Xia Bai stepped on the path forward, Ye Zhongming felt the quiet road come alive.

This feeling was weird. It was as if nothing had changed, but he felt that something had woken up or was alerted.

Be careful!

Along with Ye Zhongming's voice, Xia Bai, who had taken the third step forward, jumped forward. The next second, a green mutated plant appeared from where she stood. Like Little Tiger mentioned, it had sharp teeth, and its dozen-meter-long leaves had clear veins.

These leaves were very nimble. When they charged from the ground, the splattering stone hit Xia Bai. Moreover, each leaf attacked differently. Some stabbed, some whipped from the side, and some tried to wrap from below.

Xia Bai didn't turn her head. The scythe in her hands sliced backward and numerous leaves were sliced into two. Liquid the same color as the leaves spurted on one side of the road.

But this wasn't over. Many mutated plants appeared along the entire street to attack Xia Bai. Some were green, and some were purple. The purple plants were longer, and the leaves were wider and stronger. They were higher level, and the green ones were weaker.

Based on what Ye Zhongming observed, the mutated plants had different abilities, and those with darker colors were stronger.

In a few dozen seconds, this street was covered by mutated plants. Thousands of them danced about to attack Xia Bai.

Little Tiger instinctively wanted to help, but Ye Zhongming pulled him back. Yellow Ball also roared at the plants and bared its fangs. With its master here, it had confidence, so it wanted to vent its frustration from before.

Xia Bai danced, and the scythe in her arms flew about. Each second, dozens of these mutated plants were sliced but didn't die. The parts connected to the ground continued to twist, and as long as Xia Bai entered their range, they would still attack.

Xia Bai, come back!

Ye Zhongming called out to Xia Bai, who was still heading in. Further forwards were the most dangerous part that Little Tiger mentioned. Their scouting for today was enough.

Xia Bai started to fight her way back. Half a minute later, she finally got rid of these plants and returned to Ye Zhongmings side.

But her situation made Ye Zhongmings heart jump.

She was wearing silver equipment. She had a bloodline, job, and skills, and her weapon was silver. She even wore a purple mask.

Her combat strength was only weaker than Ye Zhongming; she could even fight with him.

Such a seven-star evolved was injured in just a minute!

Her injuries werent heavy, and she only had a few cuts, but for her to get injured in such a short time was something that even Ye Zhongming couldnt do.

There was obvious damage to her equipment. They werent corroded; they were being broken down.

They are absorbing my energy. Xia Bais first sentence shocked Ye Zhongming.

They will also absorb the energy of the other plants. Little Tiger pointed, and the two of them looked. They saw that they started to shrink after the plants didnt notice a target. But when they touched the leaves Xia Bai had sliced, they would sweep them up, and those leaves would wither and turn into powder.

Such a scene terrified everyone.

The absorption speed was so quick. Did this mean that if a person was swept up, even a seven-star evolved like Xia Bai would be sucked dry quickly?

Ye Zhongming thought about it solemnly. He took out Moon Edge, and after telling them to wait here, he rushed into the streets.

Like what Xia Bai faced, Ye Zhongming was instantly attacked. But he allowed the green leaf to wrap his arm. A few seconds later, he used his agility to dodge the other attacks. Finally, he sliced that leaf and retreated.

The leaf on his arm was squirming after losing connection to the roots.

Chapter 623: Tough spot

After returning to the camp, everyone saw that Ye Zhongmings expression wasnt good. Those who werent too close to him didnt ask. In the end, the core members were gathered in his tent.

Everyone looked at the meter-long green leaf placed in front of them. Liang Chuyin even reached out to touch it.

Yi?

The leaf twitched, and that shocked everyone.

Such strong vitality.

Mo Ye looked at the toughness of this leaf that had already been sliced and was astonished.

Liang Chuyin looked at her fingers, then the leaf, before finally looking at Ye Zhongming.

Ye Zhongming nodded, It can absorb our energy.

The others exclaimed.

Mutated lifeforms ate humans and treated them as their evolution feed. This wasn't scary, as humans had to kill them to obtain their demon crystals to evolve.

But these mutated plants with no demon crystal but could absorb energy made the people in the tent uncomfortable.

Such a situation meant that even if the plants didn't kill you, they could still obtain your ability. It had one more way of growing, making it easier to evolve than other lifeforms. But humans couldn't gain anything from it.

Maybe we should leave.

Xia Bai, who didn't speak much, suddenly suggested to leave, which silenced everyone in the tent.

Everyone knew her importance in Ye Zhongming's heart. She was her shadow and had a supernatural position in Cloud Peak. Even Xia Lei had to treat her respectfully.

But she never expressed her views on everything, so people were used to ignoring her. But when she spoke, no one dared to disrespect her.

For example, now. When Xia Bai, who usually wouldn't give her views, said something, and it was to retreat, this gave everyone a deep impression.

Ye Zhongming was also considering this matter.

He was different from people like Liang Chuyin and Little Tiger, who were used to fighting. These fellows weren't afraid of anything. If Ye Zhongming were here, they would charge forward to stab a hole into the sky. This differed from Mo Ye and Xia Bai, who wanted to retreat. The former cared about losses, while the latter cared about Ye Zhongming's safety.

Ye Zhongming was more used to balancing pros and cons.

He had to battle these plants if he wanted to enter Linhai City. But as Mo Ye worried, what if they suffered huge losses? These people were the elites of Ying City and Cloud Peak. Any losses would mean that Ying City Alliance would weaken. They would then have less confidence when they faced Soul Merchant or Glory Army.

Moreover, if they were hunting mutated lifeforms, they would have demon crystals. If people died, they would get crystals and materials as compensation. But these plants didn't have crystals. Ye Zhongming tried and they weren't usable as materials. So, if the people died, they wouldn't get anything in return.

What worried him the most was what was inside. Would there be more terrifying plants? Or more dangerous things? If not, why would the city be so quiet that there weren't any zombies?

Taking a step back, this wasn't a necessary mission, so he could afford to give it up.

But he recalled what Liu Zhenghong told him.

Only two labs in the country had these high tech equipment. One was in Linhai City, and the other was in the capital.

If he gave up on this, Liu Zhenghong's research would slow down. The experimental lifeforms were slowly losing their life forms, which couldn't be stopped.

What he worried more was that Liu Zhenghong was showing signs of returning to her past life. If this current path couldn't work, would she walk the same path that terrified Ye Zhongming?

Le Dayuan and her were together. If she did those experiments, Le Dayuan, an orthodox person, might feel differently about her, and would they break up? Or even become enemies?

Each was a tough choice.

Let me think about it; all of you head out.

He told his subordinates to head out. He picked up the leaf and tried to use the gardener's skill to activate it. But there was no reaction.

But Ye Zhongming felt that there was a weird aura, but he couldn't pinpoint what it was.

Xia Bai stood in the corner. As long as she was fine and Ye Zhongming was outside Cloud Peak, she wouldn't let this person out of her sight.

She saw Ye Zhongming frowning while sitting on a piece of stone. This person who saw Ye Zhongming's life as something more important than hers walked over. She knelt in front of him. After an unzipping sound, she removed her mask and buried herself between his legs.

She was willing to do anything to help her guy relax.

Ye Zhongming felt the comfort from his sensitive area, and his thinking became much more straightforward.

He would face losses and dangers if he headed in. If not, he would lose the chance to advance the technology.

What should he do?

He thought about it from the side and slowly had a new thought process. This new idea made sense, but would his group oppose it?

The sky was dark outside.

Ying City Alliance sent a few thousand people to be sentries, and the furthest was a few kilometers out. The camp started to cook, and the fragrance wafted through the air.

The first night at Linhai City ended peacefully.

The following day, the entire alliance received a piece of shocking news. Boss Ye was going in alone!

This decision was rejected by everyone, even Little Tiger and Liang Chuyin. They knew that Cloud Peak would be finished if anything happened to Ye Zhongming.

Ye Zhongming wasn't rash. On the contrary, he felt like this was the best solution.

Of course, he was well prepared. He even prepared so much that he felt heart-pained.

Chapter 624: Sending off

The first thing Ye Zhongming made for himself was a Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor, a green grade one.

As the amount of ghost metals diminished, he started to cherish this supermaterial. Half of the glory from his Glory Smith was from the ghost metal. Even if he crafted equipment for Cloud Peak, he only used Drill Ocean Metal unless he had no choice. Even if he used Ghost Metal, he would just use a little.

But he went all out for this equipment. He placed an entire Ghost Metal unit and used Drill Ocean Metal to strengthen its stats. This green Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor became the other elite equipment besides the Holy Army Coat.

Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor (Green), ability 1, defense 167, toughness 192.

Ability 2, Fish Armor Absorption, scales will spread and allow the user to glide. Cooldown of 8 hours consumes mental energy.

Ability 3, Thousand Leaves Fly, equipment self-destruction skill. After activating, the scales on the equipment would attack targets within range. Once all scales break off, the equipment would be permanently destroyed.

Ability 4, Phosphor Light Glow, " the equipment can activate this ability every seven days. Repair damage that is less than 50%. If the damage is more than that, this ability is ineffective.

This one had an all-around upgrade compared to the others he crafted before. For example, the basic stats were much higher. Toughness was nearing 200. The abilities of 2 and 4 had a shorter cooldown time, and the repair percentage of ability four had significantly increased from 30% to 50%.

After he saw Xia Bais equipment being broken by those mutated plants, Ye Zhongming felt he needed at least green equipment to ensure he could fight for a long time.

Out of the equipment he got from the wheel, the only one higher than green was the blue armor, which was still damaged. The stats and abilities were also more suitable than Park Xiuying.

He wore the armor, and the other parts of his body were only silver grade.

Apart from preparing some equipment, he purchased potions from Ying City members for a high price. The effect covered healing, increasing speed, and seeing in the dark. The most he bought was to recover mental energy.

It was a universal fact that potions were good, so naturally, they were expensive. Although he used equipment to reduce the price, not everyone in Ying City accepted that. After all, people with potions would probably have used materials to get the equipment they wanted. They cared about demon crystals more now.

This change was because of Ye Zhongming. Cloud Peak warriors evolution was too shocking, such that many from Ying City were unhappy with their evolution level. So, the demand for evolution potions increased.

This feeling was not a good one, but he didn't care. He planned to use his Super Elimination Technique to spin some potions and sell them for the price difference.

After which, he upgraded the Battle Contribution Box.

During the Ocean King Wheel battle, the people with the badges earned huge amounts of points. They didn't spend much to get the rocket launcher and ammo. The amount saved was enough for him to upgrade the box. This gold equipment went from level one to two.

Ye Zhongming's goal wasn't the three new badges. Although they were good, he wanted to use another ability: instant communication!

He wanted to expand the communication distance to keep in contact with his team.

The distance of the level two box increased, but it still wasn't too far. But with this method of communication, it could make everyone relax.

At least, if Ye Zhongming was in danger, he could ask for help.

The last was to place the Rainbow Gate into the camp. If he faced dangers, he could teleport back.

This was what suppressed the opposition.

The core members led Xiao Min and her team to select a position. Mo Ye and the few other women filled Ye Zhongming's space with crystal bombs and selected the two best demon crystal guns for him.

They would have made him bring the crystal cannons and Violent Lightning Turret if not for it being too inconvenient.

He waved to his men before leading the core members into the Linhai city path.

This was the part with lesser mutated plants. After the dozen of them entered, many plants stretched from various places and started to attack them.

The number of plants here was only relative. The core members who saw them for the first time were still shocked.

But the lowest level here was still five-star evolved, and they had the best equipment in Cloud Peak. Ye Zhongming led them, and they pushed forward slowly.

Various equipment lights shone, and occasionally, they used eye-catching skills.

When this team was tens of meters in, there were slight shots from behind. Xiao Min, who was already a five-star evolved, led her team to use crystal weapons to attack the mutated plants around them.

After twenty meters, they could only deduce their position through the sounds of skills and shouts.

From this distance on, people started to get injured. Liang Chuyin gave up on using Diamond Shield. Even if she could cast it quickly, she couldn't fend off the number of mutated plants. There were too many, and their attacks came from all directions. One shield couldn't last for long before being broken. Moreover, the shield couldn't completely protect them because there were too many attacks.

It is okay; all of you can leave.

Ye Zhongming gave the order, and everyone knew it wasn't the time to hesitate. They told him to be careful before turning and running backward. Their mission was over, and Ye Zhongming had to rely on himself next.

Chapter 625: Death Plant Region

He tossed two demon crystal grenades from his left hand and used a Light Blademaster skill with Moon Edge on his right. He made up another five meters of distance.

The core members had returned a while ago, and through the communication ability of the badge, Ye Zhongming learned that they were about to break free. Xiao Mins squad fired to clear the plants around. Although more appeared underground, they still managed to reduce the pressure they faced. All of them were tired, but it wasn't much of an issue.

The core members stood at where they previously set off from. Xia Bai and Mo Ye shook their heads. They couldn't sense what was going on inside. Be it sound or light, they couldn't catch anything. If not for the path being occupied and no signs of the plants retreating, they would have started to worry.

Seeing the mutated plants becoming dense even though they had cleared many of them, everyone started to regret not stopping Ye Zhongming. Could he manage to survive so many attacks?

Zhongming? Zhongming?

Liang Chuyins voice became more rushed as she shouted towards the badge.

Everyone looked, and Liang Chuyin raised her head. Her smooth forehead had thick sweat beads on it.

We lost contact after we came out!

Shengyuan and the others tried, but their communication function failed even then!

The anxious core members felt even more worried.

We must believe our boss's ability. He will be fine. Even the level eight ocean beast couldn't do anything to him, so why would he be afraid of these plants without demon crystals? Even if he faced any danger, he still has the Rainbow Gate.

Mo Ye clapped and consoled everyone. Everyone felt more at ease. They knew Ye Zhongming was fine now; they feared accidents.

Everyone guarded for a while before leaving a small group and returning to the camp.

They still had other things to do.

At this point, Ye Zhongming was attacking with a blade in one hand and a gun in the other. He would occasionally use crystal grenades.

But even if his movements were fast, there were still many plants that hit him and left wounds on his body.

If not for him protecting his head well, he would have been bleeding profusely.

Ye Zhongming felt like a small boat in a raging ocean while also being hit by a storm. There was a chance that he would capsize at any moment.

Although he had many trump cards, it was not practical to use them now. For example, if he used the Demon Nurturing Bee Nest, the advantage of the Needle Birds would become their disadvantage. The leaves would swallow those little things. If he used the Staff of Nature, he could use the defensive skill, but how long could that last? He had to enter the city and not remain in the same spot.

So he could only tank them using his equipment, job, and skills while he pushed forward.

He flipped Moon Edge to slice the leaves that wrapped around him. As for those who smacked or stabbed him, as long as they didn't aim at his crucial body parts, he ignored them. He continued on his path to move forward.

If he faced those he couldn't dodge, he would toss a crystal grenade to open up a small region.

He was much further in than Little Tiger, and his group got previously.

But there was still a huge amount of mutated plants and he couldn't see their end.

Pa. A purple leaf close to black hit his body, and it caused him to stumble and lose his balance.

Ye Zhongming was shocked because he knew that his attacks would mess up because of that. Those plants would take the chance to break his defense.

One mustn't forget that these fellows had terrifying absorption abilities. If not for Ye Zhongming having Star Absorbing Satan and Fountain of Stamina, along with the Ocean King Crown and the abilities from the badge wearers, those attacks would have sent him falling to the ground.

His recovery abilities weren't faster than their absorbing speed.

He activated his bloodline instantly.

The Basic Hell Envoy bloodline caused his strength to increase by a large amount. He twisted his body in a way that almost defied gravity. Moon Edge spun around his body and sliced the leaves around him. He kicked his right leg toward the ground and exposed the ground. Ye Zhongming didn't hesitate and pointed at it.

A giant earth giant formed and helped to block some of the leaves that tried to wrap around him.

The thousand-kilogram earth giant was swept into the sky, and numerous leaves wrapped around it. The earth giant became a giant dumpling. Ye Zhongming's mind received a notification about its durability. The durability dropped quickly until it disappeared.

It didn't even last for five seconds since it appeared.

But the earth giant still bought him five seconds of precious time.

Ye Zhongming took out the crystal energy gun, and the fan-shaped attacks on it shattered the plants. Numerous crystal grenades exploded ahead of Ye Zhongming. The two of them cleared a space.

He activated quickness to cross this area.

But this wasn't over. Explosive Mechanic appeared in his hands, and two light blades flew, clearing another space.

He stepped on those broken leaves and let them wrap around his legs. These fellows could absorb his energy, but they couldn't stop him from moving forward. He was fighting against time, so he had to ignore them.

Ye Zhongming attacked like a madman and charged like a machine. The plants couldn't stop him.

But as he charged forward, the more his heart sank. His peak state would end when his bloodline cooldown ended. He wouldn't be able to maintain his speed. He had to consider using the rainbow gate to return if he didn't make it out.

Fortunately, when he was worried, he felt the number of plants reducing. The light made him pumped up, and he went all out. Half a minute later, he charged out of this thousand-meter-long death plant region.

But before he could heave a sigh of relief, he looked ahead before rolling to the side.

Chapter 626: City full of dried corpses

Beside him was a rusty abandoned car. Ye Zhongming rolled behind it and was finally able to take a breath.

This long sprint, which forced him to go all out, was too much for Ye Zhongming, even with his stamina, and his chest felt like it was burning.

It had been rare for him to face such a situation since he evolved. Running while fighting tested one's limits.

But he could only suppress his breathing. That was because he saw enemies.

Although he had made his way out, those plants didn't retreat. They continued to dance like they were searching for him.

Ye Zhongming sliced many of these plants. The other leaves snatched those broken leaves, and the entire road was busy.

On the street behind him, Ye Zhongming saw a bunch of zombies.

Ye Zhongming wasn't afraid of these zombies. He was afraid of them drawing more zombies. He wasn't in a good state. He would have to risk his life to get free if a bunch of high-level zombies came.

But he waited and waited and heard nothing. It was as if those zombies had stopped.

He was confused. He looked at both sides. Linhai City was like the other cities. After a year, it started to break down and tear apart. Wild grass grew on the broken walls.

After waiting for a short while, there were still no sounds. Did they notice him? No, if they did, they would have just rushed over.

Ye Zhongming was curious and reached his head out. This look made him realize a large difference.

The zombies that were standing there were all Dead!

Ye Zhongming was on full alert as he observed the area around him, and there was no movement. He carefully headed near this hundred-strong horde and studied them carefully.

They were dead, but they were in a very weird state.

Since the last life, he, or rather the entire human race, knew that the only way to kill zombies was to slice their heads or destroy their brain functions. After which, you would dig the demon crystals and use them to evolve.

But the heads of these zombies were intact, and their demon crys

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Chapter 627: Death King Tree and Life Taking Carrot (1)

It was from a part of the ruins that hadn't collapsed. He thought it was just a crack, even with how detailed Ye Zhongming was.

But it was a stone door.

Inside it, a pair of young teens were waving at him.

He hesitated slightly before rushing over. He entered the stone door, and then it closed, turning back into a natural crack.

How did you get in? Did you survive from the last Feasting Day?

Ye Zhongming entered, and he was in a wary state. He noticed that there was a tunnel made of many ruins. Nearby was a place that curved so he couldn't see too far. The sky was dark outside, so it was pitch black within.

But with his sensory ability, he knew the tunnel was safe and there were no dangers.

As for the people behind him, even if he wasn't in a good state, they weren't a threat to him. This was why he dared to enter.

The pair of them were only three-star evolved.

When he heard the younger girl ask him that question, he was able to grasp a few problems.

First, there were people alive in Linhai City. Moreover, they knew those mysterious plants locked the city, so outsiders couldn't head in.

This lockdown was relative. There would be a Feasting Day where people could enter. But he didn't know if people could get out.

Seeing that Ye Zhongming didn't reply, they used the slight light to look at each other. The guy said, Let's get to know each other. I am Yang Yixi; this is my girlfriend, Mao Ying. We came here during the second feasting day and had been trapped since. We are both three-star evolved.

The footsteps got near. Yang Yixi gave Ye Zhongming a shushing handsign before pointing at the tunnel. His girlfriend and he led the way.

This stunned Ye Zhongming. Did they turn their backs on a stranger? What if they met a bad person?

Although he didn't know which Feasting Day had passed, he knew they had some news. He decided to move with them.

The tunnel was of different sizes at different intervals, and there were some areas where the three of them could walk side by side while others had to bend and walk.

After a few hundred meters, Ye Zhongming saw that the tunnel had reached the middle of a well. There was a rope. Yang Yixi lit a match. He looked at the well and then down below. He didn't notice anything unusual. He said to Ye Zhongming, Follow me, we are nearly there.

He went down the rope, and Ye Zhongming was still the last to do so.

As they got deeper, the surroundings became pitch black, and they could see nothing. Even if Ye Zhongming was a six-star evolved, he could only see a few centimeters ahead.

But he noticed that they were far deeper than the well. The place they were at was dug.

He estimated that they were nearly 200 meters down!

Finally, the two of them slowed, and the rope swung. Yang Yixi jumped to the side.

When Ye Zhongming landed on the ground, there were torches. He saw a long path lit up by lamps every dozen meters.

The entrance to our camp is up ahead. Yang Yixi pointed.

Using the light, Ye Zhongming noticed that the two of them were good-looking, but their bodies lacked the gory smell of apocalypse survivors. They were more like peacetime people.

Was there no fighting and killing here? If not, how did they maintain such an aura?

Very quickly, he saw the camp that Yang Yixi mentioned. They passed a gate guarded by a team, and the three of them entered a bomb shelter.

The people here mostly came from the second and third Feasting Days. The longest has spent more than half a year here. The shortest is around five months. You are the first outsider that we have led in.

Ye Zhongming listened carefully. Yang Yixi had a good attitude and a rare smile on his face.

Oh, that is where Mao Ying and I live.

Yang Yixi pointed at a house made of wooden boards. He opened the door and asked Ye Zhongming to enter.

It was simple and a little humid. There was also a slight ocean smell due to the bomb shelter.

Drink some water.

Yang Yixi passed him a cup, and there was a layer Two mouthfuls of water. Moreover, Ye Zhongming used the candle and saw that the water was murky.

That, this is all we have. He smiled awkwardly, You saw the situation outside. It is the world of those tree zombies, and it is tough to find water. There is underground water, but they are contaminated. We only have one purifier, so it cant purify much. The quality of which is what you see in your hands.

Ye Zhongmings eyes twitched, and he asked, Tree zombie?

En. Mao Ying replied. She tried to gesture how those zombies looked: "They are puppets controlled by the Death King Tree. You came from outside, right? You probably dont know about it. Not many have seen its true look, but it looks similar to the branches from the portion it showed. It would control those dried corpses, so everyone called it Death King Tree.

The tree zombies are zombies, mutated animals, humans. After the tree captured them, it sucked their energy and planted its seeds, turning them into the tree zombies that you see. They would often be left in the nest and only head out at night to search for survivors or mutated lifeforms.

Ye Zhongming's expression didn't change, but deep down, he was shocked.

This was the first time he heard of Death King Tree and tree zombies. As well as the weird controlling methods.

Can you tell me in detail? Ye Zhongming touched his pocket, and a silver Russian Wine Flash appeared. It had only a few ounces of storage. It wasn't wine inside but an energy drink from the wheel that helped to recover one's body. Two mouths were enough to provide three-star evolved with two hours of energy.

Chapter 627.5- Death King Tree and Life Taking Carrot (2)

Yang Yixi and Mao Ying looked at each other before taking the flash. Although they were casual people and friendly, they weren't fools. They didn't drink it and asked directly what it was.

After getting the answer, their eyes lit up, and they knew it was something good.

Ye Zhongming smiled and poured the water into the cup on the ground. He didn't care about their expressions. He poured some from the flash and drank it.

Such an action impressed Yang Yixi and Mao Ying. They told him about Linhai City in detail.

After hearing what they said, Ye Zhongming was shocked.

Two months after the apocalypse started, many mysterious plants occupied the city. They absorbed the energy of other lifeforms, turning them into dried corpses and using the energy to evolve.

When they evolved to a certain level, Linhai City's evolution numbers reduced. They started killing and eating each other until the strongest plant remained.

This strongest mutated plant occupied the entire city. It was extremely strong and controlled everything. Moreover, as its evolution level increased, it obtained a weird and irresistible power.

It could control those dried corpses.

The survivors weren't sure what happened to that terrifying mutated plant. Many hadn't even seen what it looked like. But from the parts it had left on the ground, people called it Death King Tree.

Although the dried corpses lost the crystals differentiating their levels, they still have differing strengths; we don't know how to deduce them. But one thing is certain: the number of humans and mutated lifeforms aren't strong enough to fight the current Death King Tree.

Yang Yixi drank the energy drink and breathed out in satisfaction. He said seriously, Someone estimated that the Death King Tree controls at least two million corpses. How many survivors are there now?

The long plants locking the area around are just a part of the tree?

Ye Zhongming asked. If those were just a part, then this plant was too terrifying.

No, those are Life-Taking Carrots.

Life Taking Carrot? Another name he hadn't heard of.

En, they came when the Death King Tree attacked one another. When we noticed it, Linhai was a lone city with no way out. The Life-Taking Carrot surrounded the city. Anyone who tried to head out would be swallowed. At that time, the city was covered in despair.

Ye Zhongming nodded. That was understandable. In the city was the Death King Tree that no one could fight against. Around the city was the Life-Taking Carrot. They couldn't beat it and couldn't flee. Of course, they were in despair.

Slowly, people adapted. They learned to survive underground. This is why you see us living here. We are just using the basements and bomb shelters from before.

The Death King Tree can't do anything to people underground?

If one were a plant, normally speaking, its roots would be advanced, which is the most terrifying thing. Facing such a situation, underground might be more challenging to survive than on land.

Yang Yixi shook his head, We avoided where its main body is; the other areas are considered safe.

Ye Zhongming nodded and recalled something, So what do you mean with Feasting Day?

Yang Yixi replied, The city isn't completely closed off. Every period, it would open, and we call it Feasting Day.

Sometimes it might be a month, sometimes two, sometimes twenty days. The Life-Taking Carrot would disappear, and survivors and mutated lifeforms could enter Linhai.

The young man smiled bitterly, The Feasting Day is the Death King Tree and Life-Taking Carrots Feasting Day. It is a tough day for humans.

Ye Zhongming could understand. If the Life-Taking Carrot didn't appear, more people would enter the city, and then the Death King Tree could have a full meal. It was indeed a feast.

The Death King Tree in the city and the Life-Taking Carrot on the outside had clear jobs.

But Ye Zhongming noticed a problem.

Before I came, I couldn't see any survivors, and there weren't any zombies. What is the point of the Life-Taking Carrot hiding? No one will come?

There wasn't anyone around, so even if they opened up the city, they couldn't attract anything, right?

Yang Yixi pointed upwards, That is the strength of these two mutated plants.

During the Feasting Day, the Life-Taking Carrot would shake its body to give out a ripping sound. The survivors said it mimicked mutated lifeforms and would spread very far away to attract them. The Death King Tree would create a bright light at night, and survivors who see it might think there is a treasure.

I heard a survivor from the last Feasting Day mention that many people outside knew about the situation here, but they felt like a treasure was inside. Many factions would enter during the feasting day to search for treasures.

Mao Ying didn't know whether to laugh or cry. The greed of humans also caused Ye Zhongming to sigh.

This situation continued to worsen. Linhai City would turn into hell on earth, and people would think it was a treasure trove. Survivors would risk their lives to come here and die.

Once such a situation happens, people inside might want to go out, and those outside might want to come in.

The three spoke for some time, and Yang Yixi felt it was nearly time. He looked at his girlfriend and was slightly embarrassed, Actually, we need a favor.

Ye Zhongming was stunned, but he understood immediately. No wonder they wanted to save him, brought him to their gap, and told them all this. They even gave their precious water to him. They probably thought that he had a way out of this city.

They wanted to know the location of this path and leave from it!

Chapter 628: Surprising gains (1)

Their idea made sense if Yang Yixi and Mao Ying were telling the truth.

A closed city covered in tree zombies was no different from hell on earth. They were living underground like rats and might be found at any moment by those mindless zombies. It wasn't normal if they didn't think about leaving.

Ye Zhongming finally relaxed. The experiences of his past life made it hard for him to believe others. At least these two people gave him the best attitude and logical explanations.

He looked at their hopeful faces and felt bad to disappoint them. He looked at the water that had yet to dry up and shook his head, The way I used to come in isn't suitable for you two.

They looked at each other in disappointment.

But

His words caused the two of them to look up again.

But there is a way out. When I leave, I can bring you two out!

If others said that, Yang Yixi and Mao Ying wouldn't believe them. Based on what he said, even the strongest survivors in the city couldn't get out.

But Ye Zhongming came from the outside, so his words were believable.

Of course, Yang Yixi and his girlfriend wouldn't chase him for an answer. Although their mentalities hadn't changed because of the closed environment, they had been through the apocalypse. They knew everyone had secrets, and trying to touch them would turn people into enemies.

Although they didn't get the answer they hoped for, they had hope, and the two were happy.

Some noise spread from outside, and a footstep got close a moment later.

A guy's voice rang out, and he knocked on the door.

Yixi, Yixi? Are you inside? I heard the guards say that you are back.

It is Ah Hai.

Yang Yixi told Ye Zhongming before opening the simple door. He smiled, but when the person on the outside saw that there was an outsider, he looked shocked.

This is Ye Zhongming, a survivor we met on the surface. En, this is Ah Hai, our good friend. We knew each other since before the apocalypse.

Ye Zhongming and Ah Hai both nodded, but Ye Zhongming saw some suspicion in his expression. He only didn't ask because Ye Zhongming was present.

Do you need something?

Yang Yixi looked at the dark bomb shelters tunnel and asked.

The boss called us over. There are a few things to discuss with everyone; he wants us all to go.

Okay.

Yang Yixi hesitated after agreeing. Ye Zhongming said, Go, if you aren't scared of me, I can walk around myself?

The three said it was okay, but he shouldn't go too far and not head to the storage room. Things would be okay only after they told the boss about him and everyone accepted his presence.

He looked at them leave and then around before walking towards a direction.

With his sharp senses, he sensed many in this modified camp. But not everyone had the right to be called to a meeting with the boss.

His equipment was damaged due to the intense fight. Once he was safe, he placed them in the gourd to repair. The green grade of the Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor had reached the highest level that the gourd could repair.

The current Ye Zhongming wore simple outdoor gear, which was slightly dirty because he was crawling in the tunnel. He looked no different from other survivors.

As the bomb shelter was modified, its shape wasn't like before. Ye Zhongming could deduce the original parts made of cement flooring and walls, which were relatively safer. The modified part was dug orderly but damp, with no bricks or stone. The defense was weak, and it was easy for accidents to happen. People who weren't as well off lived in these parts.

Ye Zhongming walked to such a place.

There was rubbish around and a nose-piercing stench of sewage. Tents were built haphazardly, and there were many thin and numb-looking survivors. Even when they saw such a stranger like Ye Zhongming, they looked at him calmly before going back to staring aimlessly.

Ye Zhongming felt uncomfortable. He was used to such places and spent at least three years like that in his last life. Even after he left, he would often do matters in such places.

Although only a year passed in this year, Ye Zhongming had a very comfortable life. The women around him would often take good care of him.

He shook his head. The environment would affect one, and he was a little spoiled.

Ye Zhongming looked around and saw a guy squatting beside his tent, which had many holes.

Is there a trading market here? Or a merchant?

Various organizations in the apocalypse didn't share profits like Cloud Peak. They were more of an interest organization where the higher levels ripped off the lower levels, and those of the same level would trade with each other.

Even the resistance zones did the same.

So many factions had trading markets. Even if they didn't, they would have a middleman selling things to earn the price gap. Ye Zhongming was looking for such a person.

That person raised his blurred eyes, and after a long while, he reacted to Ye Zhongmings question. His eyes even started to light up.

Big Bell, Big Bell, come out!

The guy didnt reply to him and instead shouted at the tent.

A few seconds later, a thin woman came out. Half her hair even had an unknown liquid that dried up.

400ml of water, 1 kilogram of meat, sleep with her, and I will tell you what you want to know for free.

That woman raised her head to look at Ye Zhongming. She looked at Ye Zhongmings clear face, which reflected that he was well-fed, and her smile widened.

Ye Zhongming sighed. When scenes that he had seen multiple times in his last life appeared once again, he felt melancholic.

He passed a piece of meat jerky to her and told the guy, Tell me, or I will ask someone else.

I will speak!

The guy snatched the meat jerky. It was hard to imagine that a one-star evolved used his strength in such a manner.

Walk forwards. Do you see that grey tent? A few people are there, and they have things to sell.

Ye Zhongming nodded. He used the weak light from the few piles of campfire to walk over.

Chapter 629: Surprising gains (2)

The moment Ye Zhongming got close, he heard some people talking. They should be trading. This surprised him. After all, the outstanding people in the camp were called for a meeting, and the poor people didnt look like they could afford things.

He passed the grey tent and saw a flattened ground. Dozen people were squatting or standing there. Among them was one male and female bargaining with a cunning-looking old man. The others were just gathered around.

When they saw Ye Zhongming, the negotiation stopped. The two of them were anxious, and after saying two sentences and seeing the old man shake his head, they bit their teeth and took out a three-star potion to complete the trade.

Ye Zhongmings eyes were sharp, and he saw that they had a small bottle and several seeds in it.

Although he didnt understand why they were so nervous and couldnt understand, he continued looking at the others. He saw they didnt display items, so he said, I want to trade for things.

These people didnt say anything and sized up Ye Zhongming. They glanced at each other before a middle-aged guy moved over.

Brother, you look foreign.

Although Ye Zhongmings clothing was dirty, it wasnt tattered; the base was still very clean. His face didnt look white from living underground for so many days, and instead, he seemed very healthy.

Although the light was dim, but evolved could see him. So, these merchants were more sensitive to his identity than survivors who were struggling to survive.

I just came; Yang Yixi and Ah Hai brought me here.

Hearing the two names Ye Zhongming mentioned, those people relaxed, and their wariness was reduced by more than half.

Although there were outsiders, for example, the air that traded, they knew each other. The two were from Anhu Underground City, and they had heard of each other.

Since Yang Yixi brought Ye Zhongming over, he should be safe. As for why he was foreign, maybe he was from another part of the city.

What do you want to buy?

The middle-aged man had only to confirm his safety and didn't care about anything else. He didn't get business every day, but he got two today. He was more happy than wary.

Not sure; I want to see what you have.

Walking around the market of a new camp was his habit in his last life. This was also the habit of other survivors.

The few of them looked at each other again and knew what they meant. This newbie has some riches.

A few of them displayed their items for Ye Zhongming to select.

Every place had its specialties. For example, Cloud Port had ocean-related equipment and skills. There were more water element abilities there.

Ye Zhongming didn't know about the Death King Tree and Life-Taking Carrot. He also didn't know about the tree zombies. This made him think that there was something here that he had never seen before.

He looked at the things they displayed. There were many. There were scrolls, potions, and weapons, but they were mostly equipment from the wheels. But Ye Zhongming weren't interested in them because of their level, the highest was only white grade.

He was interested in some materials that probably came from those tree zombies.

As businessmen, they knew how to observe expressions. Seeing how calm he was, they knew he had seen good things in his past. They could complete a few deals today.

How much do they cost?

Ye Zhongming pointed at the bunch of materials from the tree zombies.

You want that?

That middle-aged man was in disbelief. Even the pair that were about to leave were shocked.

Seeing Ye Zhongming nod, that middle-aged man laughed, If you want, you can take them all for a one-star potion.

The others didn't react when they heard what the middle-aged man said, but they felt like his price was too high in their hearts. If one took a risk and went to the surface a few times, they didn't have to kill the zombies; they could just pick them up. They picked them previously to burn and use for fuel.

A bunch of timber for a one-star potion, he was scamming this young man.

Okay!

But under their shocked gazes, Ye ZHongming agreed. He took a one-star potion from his bag and passed it.

The middle-aged man didn't expect him not to bargain. After being momentarily stunned, he took the potion and looked very excited.

The pair shook their heads. They thought the young man was from the Third Charging Team and was here to cause trouble like them. But they didn't think he was a fool who wanted to pick up trash.

Do you have better? Ye ZHongming looked at these people and expressed that if this were it, he would leave.

Old Jia! The middle-aged man said. Old Jia had the best items here and usually wouldn't take them out. But this person was rich, and his precious items might find a buyer.

Old Jia was the old man who traded with that pair. He crossed his arms and looked. When he heard the middle-aged man call him, he smiled and gave a cunning smile. He waved at Ye ZHongming and took a box from behind him. He opened it after Ye ZHongming got closer.

Seven to eight things were in the box, and their quality was much better than before, but Ye ZHongming didn't think too highly about them. Right when he was about to give up, he saw a few scrolls in the other bag in his hands.

What is that?

Old Jia didn't expect Ye ZHongming to care about his scrolls than those in the box.

Although the scrolls were decent, they weren't extremely good items. They also had many restrictions, so not many asked about them. He bought them for a low price from others with a gambling mentality but failed to sell them. He had no hopes of selling them anymore.

Now that Ye ZHongming asked, he passed them to him.

Ye ZHongming opened the bag and took a look. He was disappointed. They weren't precious items. This was until he opened the final one.

He saw a recipe: Intermediate Human Puppet Technique!

Chapter 630: More good things

This was the most surprising thing for Ye ZHongming.

Ye ZHongming was not ignorant and wasn't one of those who had illusions of evolving skills to the highest levels.

He knew that getting one skill was luck. To upgrade the skill to another level was very difficult.

Not only did you need to be rich, but you also needed luck to get what you wanted from parts of the world with many wheels.

In the ten years of his last life, if there were a hundred with skills or equipment that could be upgraded, only one or two managed to upgrade them.

So when he saw this scroll, he was shocked.

He gained the Basic Human Puppet Technique at the start of the apocalypse, and only a year had passed. Even if he had the skill to upgrade the recipe, he didn't think he was so lucky to get the required scroll within a year.

Moreover, as Ye Zhongming created Red Hair using the Basic Human Puppet Technique, she also became the most special person in his faction, so he cared a lot about this skill.

Now that he saw the intermediate grade scroll, he couldn't help but show interest.

Moreover, he had seen that silver zombie in his last life that reached the strength of a seven-star evolved. That was made through the intermediate grade technique.

People who could become merchants in the apocalypse were all very sharp. Old Jia saw the glimpse of joy on Ye Zhongming's face and knew that this young man was interested in this thing. He started to think about what price to ask.

He thought about how those bunch of materials could get a one-star potion from him, so this scroll that was useful for him was worth more.

Old Jia hesitated. In terms of base price, it didn't cost much. He used five kilograms of mutated pig meat to trade it from a survivor squad. He kept it for a few months. En, then he shall ask for a three-star potion.

Right, the same as what he sold the Death King Tree seeds for!

Price.

Ye Zhongming waved the scroll and asked.

Old Jia acted reluctant and sighed, I wanted to keep this for my son, but I shall bear the pain since you are interested in it. I don't want much, just the price I paid for it. En, a three-star potion!

The others rolled their eyes when they heard it.

Everyone knew that the scrolls in the bag were all old goods and were things that other people weren't interested in and couldn't use. Did he want a three-star potion for it? He was crazy! Three-star potion represented a three-star evolved. It was enough to become a core member of any survivor camp in the city.

Also, who was the son that he mentioned? Didn't his son get eaten on the first day of the apocalypse?

The pair who hadn't left pouted. They were doing well in Linhai City, and their faction had some special method, which was why they could use the three-star potion to trade for the seeds.

But what were these lousy scrolls? They had seen it before but couldn't use a single one. No one would even want them if he sold them for a two-star potion.

The apocalypse was like that. The value of something was not only based on other things like evolution potions; it depended on demand. If a thing was good, but people couldn't use it, its value would drop. Similarly, an ordinary thing that a survivor badly needed would be expensive.

These scrolls seemed useful for Ye Zhongming but weren't for the pair and the merchant. The price difference was understandable.

Three-star potion?

Ye Zhongming repeated.

It wasn't because it was expensive; on the contrary It was cheap.

To Ye Zhongming, such an intermediate scroll could trade for two four-star potions. They might even pay a five-star potion if he met someone who badly needed it.

Moreover, Ye Zhongming had the Super Elimination Technique, so the value of the first three level potions dropped.

This drop was only to Ye Zhongming. The value of such a potion would be maintained at around ten crystals. But for others? They might need a hundred.

This was the gap between both sides. Ye Zhongming reduced the cost of such potions to a tenth of others.

Which was why a three-star potion was around ten level three crystals. If he bumped into a wheel that needed fewer crystals, he might not even need that many.

It wasn't expensive for such a small number of crystals to trade for an intermediate-grade scroll. It was as cheap as vegetables.

Seeing Ye Zhongming hesitate, Old Jia was nervous. He knew that it was expensive and knew that no one wanted it. At least when he was here, he hadn't heard of anyone who knew the Basic Human Puppet Technique.

If he asked for too much, he might scare this willing buyer off, which would be terrible.

Thinking about it, he wanted to lower the price.

If he felt a three-star potion was too expensive, then Three two-star potions were okay.

I want them all, two three-star potions.

Ye Zhongming spoke up and pointed at the scrolls in the bag.

Ah? Old Jia was stunned, and then his eyes started to spin.

If you think it is insufficient, I won't buy anything.

Sure, sure, of course, it is enough.

Ye Zhongming's stance crushed Old Jia's thoughts, and he shoved those scrolls to Ye Zhongming, who passed him two three-star potions.

The others saw Ye Zhongming not only spend a sky-high price to buy one scroll but also used the same price to buy the other scrolls. Was this young man crazy?

Ye Zhongming was not crazy, but he wasn't on the same level as the rest, and his thinking was different.

He didn't see anything else that was good, so he wanted to leave. That pair had already left ahead of him.

But he took a few steps, and that cunning Old Jia stopped him. He said mysteriously, Little Brother, you seem strong. I have a good thing. If you can pay the price, you can have it!