

Apocalypse 811

Chapter 811: Earth Set

The sound of Sand Dance stabbing into soft bones delighted Ye Zhongming. Although half of his body was numb, so he had no feeling, even after being hugely restricted, he was still able to defeat the strong opponent which gave him some joy.

How did one use their potential? When one was forced to the edge of the cliff, when their lives were in danger, they would be able to do things they couldn't usually do. As long as they passed the hardship, it proved that they had potential, and this potential would turn into a part of their strength.

Be it in his last life or this; Ye Zhongming hadn't fought to the death in such a situation. Now that he had won, he had a whole new understanding of his will, mental, and strategy. Moreover, he became more confident.

The bear's body fell to the ground. It didn't understand how it would lose to a human whose strength was restricted.

Ye Zhongming heaved a sigh of relief and looked as the path to the 6th space opened up. He sat down, took off his equipment, and checked his wounds.

With the Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor's protection and also the Earth Vein bonus stats, although the giant bear's bite was strong, it didn't kill him instantly. It just pierced the protective armor.

But the bear's teeth were long and sharp. It still left several holes in Ye Zhongming's body. Ye Zhongming dealt with them, and a few minutes later, they stopped bleeding. The numb feeling disappeared, and it turned into pain.

Ye Zhongming knew that this was good. The evolved's advantage was being shown. Along with Ye Zhongming having a stronger base and Clear Body from the Mountain Body Blade Saint, his recovery speed was not only faster than ordinary people; it was faster than evolved. When he wore his armor again, his wounds had closed.

Ye Zhongming estimated that the few holes would heal in two days based on this speed.

This made him himself shocked. Recently, he only obtained one more Clear Body, but this passive skill seemed like a god recovery skill.

Using the recovery time, Ye Zhongming took out the red soil and observed it.

Like the other two soil colors, it was pure and had no impurities. At a certain angle, one could see it reflect light.

The other two colors did not have this, but since their functions were different, that was understandable.

The black soil could represent defensive equipment, the yellow represented accessories so, did red represent... Attack equipment?

His eyes lit up. He had more attack equipment on him.

He excitedly took out the silver sniper rifle.

Sand Dance or the energy crystal demon gun was either from the wheel or equipment from blueprints, so the red soil wasn't useful. This prevented him from improving his own attack weapons. But he was an outstanding smith. He and many Cloud Peak members had weapons he crafted. The fertile soil could upgrade them.

This silver sniper rifle was only enchanted and strengthened, so its stats were random and weren't good enough.

When he placed the red soil into it, Ye Zhongming saw it turned green.

"Earth Shaking Armor Breaking Rifle, attack +340, Armor Breaking +230."

"Ability 1, precision and long vision. The sniper rifle has a precise scope that greatly increases the shooter's range and reduces the recoil. It reduces the effect of the surrounding environment on the bullet and greatly increases accuracy."

"Ability 2, distance and penetration. Increase the range of the gun. Moreover, maintains accuracy within its range. The bullet will be able to penetrate the target; the penetration is double the attack of the bullet and gun's attack."

"Ability 3, distance explosion and thrust. After the bullet hits the target, it prioritizes penetration. But when it pushes forward, it will form an explosion and cause a small range of damage. The strength is related to the bullet's stats. Moreover, when exploding, it forms a thrust that forms a strong energy wave that will deal a second-time damage."

"Ability 4, arced shot. When the shooter uses this skill, consumes some mental energy. The bullet will arc in the sky to attack the target, catching it off guard and crossing obstacles. Increase the attack by 50, penetration and ranged explosion by 5%. Cooldown time of 10 hours every ten shots."

"Earth Attack Equipment bonus stat, Earth Frantic Kill. When the wearer fights on the ground, all attacks +10%, bonus can stack. The upper limit of 50."

"Earth Set, when the wearer gathers the Earth attack, defense, and accessory series, an extra Earth Set stat would appear."

"Three different types of equipment would form one stat; at most, you can have three stats."

"Earth Stat 1, earth provision. Increase strength by 10%, defense by 10%, earth element abilities by 10%, recovery by 10%, reduce earth element damage taken by 10%, and reduce gravity effect by 50%. Obtain an earth reward every 1450 hours. Energy can help to heal injuries, regain mental energy, repair equipment, remove debuffs, remove marks etc. When you don't choose any of the above or have some

remaining energy, you can use it to strengthen your body and increase your base stats."

Ye Zhongming was stunned when he saw the stats and swallowed his saliva.

The gun's abilities had become really good. Ye Zhongming might not know about other equipment, but he knew about green sniper rifles. In his last life, he had such a rifle.

But he couldn't see the exact value because he wasn't a smith. But he used it for a long time and knew its abilities. He knew there were some basic stat additions, which already made him much stronger.

This gun was much more powerful. The various materials, along with Ghost Metal and Fertile Soil, made it overpowered.

Just the passive ability was enough to make it an elite weapon. This was good even ten years into the future.

The active skill added a weird way of attack that would catch enemies off guard. It would even strength the strength of the passive.

There was also the bonus stats of the Earth Attack Equipment that would increase attack.

Of course, what surprised him the most was the set stats!

Chapter 812: Strengthening Body

Ye Zhongming had seen set stats before. The Holy Army Coat had set stats; the modified Holy Army Coat did, too. Ye Zhongming studied them, and had to admit they were very good.

However, set equipment was limited in its use and subject to special restrictions. For example, the Black Solid Set was prepared for battle beasts. The modified Holy Army Coat became the specific set for certain jobs. Only then could the set be used to its biggest advantage.

But it was different this time. Ye Zhongming witnessed the strength of the country product.

Increase in strength, defense, recovery, earth element abilities, reducing earth element damage taken and effect of gravity... Just these passives alone would make any other equipment a top one.

These were all buffs, which meant that if the survivor got stronger, the buffs would increase, and the stats would never fall behind.

However, these stats were all gathered on one ability. Even Ye Zhongming was tempted when he saw it.

The stronger thing was the Earth Nurture effect. Every 1450 hours, you would obtain an earth gift.

This gift was special as their source was the earth itself, but it wasn't easy to understand.

Any Earth Equipment did not have the ability to absorb energy. Since that was the case, how would it obtain energy? Where would you store it?

But this wasn't the key to the problem. The key was that this energy could do many things.

For example, you can heal, recover mental energy, repair equipment, remove debuffs, and remove marks. If you didn't choose to use these methods or if energy remained, you could use it to strengthen your body, increasing your basic stats.

This was the core of this ability!

Healing injuries and removing debuffs were often something only special potions or jobs could do. This ability could even increase your basic stats, making it a god technique!

The cooldown time was very long, close to 1500 hours. This was a small problem, but from another angle, it meant that the energy obtained wouldn't be small. It would be a shocking amount. Then, if you used it to improve your body, how many benefits would it bring to your own body?

Moreover, this wasn't a one-time use. If you continued to own the set, you could obtain an increase every two months. Six times a year, 60 times in ten years...

Ye Zhongming didn't dare to continue imagining.

He knew that if he continued with the set, he would only get stronger!

He placed the sniper rifle on his leg and felt the benefits that the Earth Set brought him. He decided to use Earth Gift once.

The space prohibited some types of energy, so he could only rely on his body to fight. If his body got stronger, he would become much more powerful, and it would be easier for him to deal with the upcoming fights.

He activated the ability and felt a surging power flow off his body and into his mind. This power was so thick that it hurt his body.

Ye Zhongming knew what he needed to do. He repaired the equipment that had been damaged since he obtained it-- Protector Cloak.

The protective equipment he obtained from the competition death wheel was the strongest defensive equipment. Unfortunately, it was damaged and needed repair. The Treasure Nurturing Gourd's level wasn't high enough, and Ye Zhongming didn't know how to repair it, so he could only keep it.

Looking at the stats, it was suitable for Park Xiuying. Not only did it have the ripple defense ability, it also had Thorn Light and Mental Energy Return, which were suitable for support jobs.

Now that he had Earth Gift, it was the correct time to repair it.

The blue equipment was covered in a ripple. It started to spread from where Ye Zhongming touched it. Any place that the light touched would be repaired.

In just half a minute, this equipment was flawless.

Ye Zhongming smiled. Teacher Park will be safer in the future.

Ye Zhongming compared and saw that the energy he got from Earth Gift had reduced by a fifth.

Ye Zhongming chose to heal his injuries to ensure that he was in his best state before he entered the next space. He would strengthen his body with the remaining power.

This power entered his body and nourished every cell. Ye Zhongming was addicted to that feeling of slowly becoming stronger. This was different from when you consumed the evolution potion.

That was painful. If one's body was a cup, evolution forcefully expanded it so naturally it didn't feel good. This energy helped to thicken the walls of the cup and make it tougher.

These were two different methods.

But you could imagine that the pain from the next evolution would reduce with thicker walls.

Of course, this was just an added benefit. The real benefit was that Ye Zhongming's body would become much stronger.

When Earth Gift strengthened Ye Zhongming and entered cooldown, Ye Zhongming could sense that his body was much stronger. It was in all areas; even his mental energy had increased.

Mental energy was Ye Zhongming's strength. He ate the Brain Bug, cultivated the Soul Refining Technique, and had many jobs. He had an ocean amount of mental energy so mental energy increase wouldn't seem so obvious as he had too much.

But this time, he felt an obvious increase. One could imagine how effective this energy was to all areas of his body.

Power, speed, agility, senses... After a series of tests, Ye Zhongming could confirm that his body had nearly reached the level of an eight-star evolved.

Even if there was a difference, it wasn't much!

In other words, if the Chain Prisoner's height was restricted to Ye Zhongming's and both sides didn't use skills, Ye Zhongming wouldn't be afraid of it.

Ye Zhongming laughed and stepped into the next space.

Chapter 813: Increase in price

Zuo Jinxuan waved her arm, and her white fingertips shot a blade light that sliced the last vine. A smile appeared on her face.

"This is the legendary special wheel space? It doesn't seem like much?"

The seven-star evolved that Ye Zhongming felt had no eq looked at the dead mutated vines. Her tone was filled with pride.

Jayce didn't even attack. He felt he didn't need to waste his energy for such little danger.

The four of them held hands and were teleported in, and as expected, they were in the same space. When they looked around, An Man touched the black fertile soil on the ground which caused the vines to attack him.

They came here for the Fertile Soil, so naturally, they would collect it. Thus, the battle started. But to two seven and two six star evolved, the first space wasn't a threat to them. Apart from An Man who got whipped, even if the others were hit by the vines, they didn't get injured.

"Don't be careless; this is just the first danger. Even with the four of us working together, it can hit me. The path ahead would be difficult."

Ji Ruiguang looked at the Fertile Soil. Excitement flashed in his eyes. He kept them carefully and looked in the other direction.

“If not for the weird gravity here, these things wouldn’t be able to touch me.”

Zuo Jinxuan scoffed; she didn’t care at all.

This made Ji Ruiguang frown.

This woman was good at everything, just her personality was so annoying.

“This thing can really trade for...”

An Man looked as the barrier before him disappeared, and he wanted to ask. But Ji Ruiguang turned his head and looked at him with killing intent. This bald man swallowed his words.

Before they confirmed that matter, no one could discuss it as it was too dangerous. An Man realized his own mistake and coughed nervously.

Zuo Jinxuan didn’t care at all. Jayce looked at the C Zone commanders, and he was deep in thought.

Seemed like there were many things that he didn’t know about.

“There are people ahead!”

Zuo Jinxuan suddenly shouted. The remaining three looked. As expected, to their left, many spaces away, a tall figure stood there fighting something. Due to the light, they couldn’t see clearly.

But one thing was for sure: that tall figure wasn’t a human.

Humans weren’t so tall.

Although they couldn’t see too clearly but they had been through many battles and could sense that the battle was intense. They could also sense that figure’s strength.

At least in terms of power, it was far above them.

“There is someone there!”

An Man looked further, and there was a figure. This one was more like a human, even wearing green equipment.

Seems like Ye Zhongming.

Jayce squinted his eyes to confirm. Although he wasn’t sure, from the size and equipment, it should be the guy that he hated.

“Let’s go.” Ji Ruiguang looked towards Ye Zhongming’s direction and led the way into the second space. But he took two steps and saw that Jayce didn’t follow.

“Old Jayce?”

Ji Ruiguang realized something. He turned around to face Jayce.

“Commander Ji, I told you when I agreed to work with you that I can do things without asking for a reason, I just need you to give me what I need.” Jayce crossed his arms, “But things are not what I expected. I didn’t think that we would enter the special space to face unknown dangers.”

“For example... It.” Jayce pointed at the huge figure that didn’t seem like a human.

“Who knows how many of such situations we would have to face? How many more we have to kill? The price you gave is... Not enough.”

Ji Ruiguang didn’t expect Jayce to raise the price now and he squinted his eyes.

“Don’t look at me like I am your subordinate; I am not.” Jayce did not care about Ji Ruiguang’s threat, “Double the price and tell me what you are going to do with the soil.”

“Jayce, going against your word kind of insults your status.” An Man was unhappy, and his face was covered in rage.

Jayce shrugged, “With strength, you will have status; what is the point of honesty? Are you an honest person?”

Those words infuriated An Man, and his head lit up.

“It doesn’t matter if you don’t agree. In the end, we will just depend on our own skills. Seemed like there would be an end, and there would be a final prize, right? Is that thing not worth you giving me twice the price?”

Zuo Jinxuan blinked and suddenly said, “I want double, too.”

Jayce smiled; this woman was really a fool that could be made use of.

“Okay, but that is the final price. If you go against your word, then we can all leave.”

Ji Ruiguang bit his teeth and agreed.

He started to talk about the Fertile Soil. Zuo Jinxuan and Jayce were shocked. Even An Man who knew a little was astonished.

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The Death King Tree stood near the barrier. As its body was translucent and it was standing where it came in from, no one saw a plant enter.

When the four others entered the second space, it moved its body towards the center.

“So.. Fragrant.”

That beautiful face trembled, “What is that? Why do I want to eat it? Can I eat it?”

The roots shook and signaled to its master their emotions.

“Forget it, just eat it. I will eat all the soil.”

The roots stuck into the Fertile Soil, and those vines drilled out and started to attack it. But the level eight lifeform ignored them and allowed them to whip it.

The black Fertile Soil disappeared quickly.

The Death King Tree that absorbed them actually shrunk, and its body became more translucent. That female body became more apparent.

“More, more, and I will recover. I can even evolve!”

In the space space, the Death King tree went mad as it shouted.

Chapter 814: Weird puzzle

Ye Zhongming struggled to sit, and blood flowed out from his body.

He had forgotten which space this was, but he had been fighting all this while so that he could return before the Crystal Nest Barrier expired.

But it seemed like the wheel space was having a joke with him. He couldn't see any hope, and the spaces seemed endless. After he passed one, another would appear.

If he had the time, he didn't mind this. There would be a day that he got out. He even hoped that he would fight more. After all, each space could provide him with a small amount of Fertile Soil.

But time waited for no one. To get out quickly, he could only take a short break, which caused his injuries to worsen. Even if his body had gotten stronger and he was close to level eight, but he couldn't handle such high-intensity fighting.

The potion was gone, and Clear Body could only allow him to last a little longer. But the accumulation of injuries meant that he wouldn't be able to recover without a few days of rest.

He looked at the endless space, and for the first time, a feeling of despair rose in his heart.

Was he unable to save his subordinates who believed in him?

He thought that things would get easier as the gravity reduced, his body got stronger, and his recovery speed increased. But now...

Ye Zhongming smiled and closed his eyes to try to heal his injuries. Although he was a little lost, he wouldn't give up until it was the end.

He felt slightly better and entered the next space.

But the moment he entered, he was shocked at first, but then he was delighted.

He saw that this space was different. The ground here had three colors, the same as the wheel outside!

Difference might mean that it was more dangerous, but it could also mean that the test was at its end.

Ye Zhongming entered carefully and looked at the three-colored group. He looked around and saw that it was different. The barrier here wasn't translucent; it was a door.

Door? Was this the exit?

Knowing that guessing was useless, Ye Zhongming started to collect Fertile Soil. But he was wary for some time and didn't notice anything.

No dangers?

Ye Zhongming continued to collect and no dangers appeared. This was until he collected the last bit of soil...

A dozen pipes appeared from the water ripples above. These table tennis ball-sized pipes aimed at him.

A streak of light appeared, and as time increased, the light got quicker and quicker.

No!?

Laser?

Ye Zhongming felt extreme danger and dodged to the side.

The first laser fired. Shortly after, the dozens of them fired, and the space was filled with laser light.

Ye Zhongming had no choice but to dodge but as the space wasn't big, he didn't have much room. Sometimes, he couldn't dodge, so he could only try to use Sand Dance to block or knock the lasers aside.

But they were too quick. Sand Dance could block the first, but it couldn't block the second or third. The lasers started to hit his body.

The lasers were very powerful and penetrative. After hitting his body, they would burn. There was a scorching feeling from the wound.

Ye Zhongming felt like this place was hell.

The Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor was already tattered. If not for him being a smith and having materials in his three space equipment that could repair it, if not, it would have been spoilt.

But at this time, after the armor took a few dozen shots, it finally lost its last bit of durability and shattered.

The durability of the Earth Wind Breaking Pants also dropped.

Ye Zhongming was anxious. He didn't mind the Thousand Leaf Phosphor Armor shattering, but he didn't want the pants to shatter. This pants not only increased his defense, it also provided him with Earth Vein which increased the defense of all equipment. If he lost it, his defense would drop by a level.

He was in such a tough situation, even with so many support stats. If he lost some, wouldn't he die instantly?

No choice. He could only wear the Protector Cloak that he prepared for Park Xiuying, to use it to increase some defense.

At the same time, he looked for an opportunity. He tossed Sand Dance into the sky to try to destroy these pipes, but after a few tries, he gave up.

Apart from him taking many shots, these pipes couldn't be hit.

He could only tank it?

Ye Zhongming was disgusted by this battle that took no skill at all.

Fortunately, when the Protector Cloak started to show signs of damage, the lasers stopped, and the pipes retracted, leaving him laying on the ground.

This time, he was badly injured. Although he protected his key areas his body was still hit many times. The wounds were holes and because many were connected, it became a bloody mess.

Fortunately, the scorching effect meant that the wounds wouldn't bleed as that area was scorched.

If not for Ye Zhongming's body being strong due to the buffs, he would have died.

He lay there for a dozen minutes before standing up. He looked at the barrier that had opened.

He hoped that it was the exit.

He climbed into the last space; unexpectedly, it wasn't the exit. It was a small space, and apart from a jade platform in the middle, there wasn't anything else.

Ye Zhongming stumbled to his feet and walked before it. He saw what was on it.

It was a puzzle.

What did this mean? Ye Zhongming was confused. He picked up this round puzzle and there was a quarter of a picture. On it was a baby.

This was the reward? What was this?

Ye Zhongming felt melancholic when he held the reward.

But before he could study it, the area beneath his feet flashed and he disappeared from this space. When he could see again, he saw that he had entered an eye catching, majestic hall.

Chapter 815: Priority to challenge

Ye Zhongming had never seen the ancient pavilion designs, but he was used to modern architecture.

However, he couldn't tell what style this hall was in.

He could sense a noble aura with it.

As compared to the simple spaces before, this was totally different.

He didn't panic and was really calm. He observed the surrounding environment and didn't notice any danger. It was an exquisite table with some food and water.

Ye Zhongming moved over and used the remaining Needle Birds to test. After realizing that they weren't poisonous, he started to eat. Very quickly, these delicious food was in his stomach.

After eating, he realized that his injuries were healing quickly. The food and water had miraculous healing effects!

Seemed like things weren't over.

Ye Zhongming closed his eyes to allow his body to heal better.

A few minutes later, the injuries that were so serious that he found it difficult to walk were partially healed.

Ye Zhongming was amazed by the food.

At this time, some scenes appeared on the wall opposite him. He took a look and was shocked.

Not only did he see the pregnant Demon Monster, who was much taller. He saw Ji Ruiguang, Jayce, Zuo Jinxuan and An Man. They were fighting in a space. Many mutated lifeforms surrounded them and wanted to kill them.

What shocked Ye Zhongming the most was the Death King Tree!

This strong mutated plant that had sneak attacked his team was actually still following him!

Thinking about its level, Ye Zhongming was terrified. His team searched for it all around but didn't see any signs of it. They thought that it had stopped following. Who knew that it would appear here?

This was something like a CCTV.

Just when Ye Zhongming was confused about why these scenes would appear, the scenes gave him the answer.

Demon Monster, Death King Tree, Ji Ruiguang's group. A red line marked their path. There was another red line that passed which belonged to Ye Zhongming.

Out of these three groups, the demon monster passed the most. Ye Zhongming counted, and there were 15. He himself passed 22.

The demon monster was close to the exit.

Next was the group of four. There were many of them, and they were very strong. Two seven-star and two six-star. When they fought, they could take care of each other, which was why they were in the eighth space.

Only the Death King Tree was slower and stopped in the sixth space.

But the Death King Tree looked like it was having it the easiest.

This weird tree was immune to the black space. It needed to deal with the red and yellow rooms.

Moreover, Ye Zhongming observed and saw that it absorbed the black soil quickly. It didn't need to accumulate it like Ye Zhongming slowly. It just ate it. This made its body much smaller, and it turned more translucent. But the aura became stronger.

The Death King Tree was a mutated plant, so the black soil was definitely useful for it. The Country Product was definitely good, which was why this fellow's strength was recovering.

Ye Zhongming frowned.

Cloud Peak and the Death King Tree were enemies. If it recovered, wouldn't it be a huge problem?

But he didn't have a solution.

Ye Zhongming looked at the end of their paths. There was a space similar to his, and there was also a jade stone platform. On it was a puzzle.

He took his piece of the puzzle and understood. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the puzzle. Four lifeforms. Altogether, they would form one complete piece.

But what would appear? What would he get?

Each special wheel had different rewards. The tougher and more complicated, the better the reward.

Demon Gambling Wheel, Colorful Illusion Wheel, etc were small-sized special wheels. The battle modes were simple and short. The Exquisite Exchange Wheel, and Competition Death Space Wheel were large special wheels that were more dangerous and complicated.

This country product wheel should be between the two of them. Of course, it leaned towards being a big special wheel.

The rewards were naturally the Fertile Soil and this puzzle.

Just when he was thinking, he got a notification to select the method to proceed.

He looked carefully and understood what was going on.

As four groups had entered, this was a special case. Each group had a path and if they crossed it, they would get the Fertile Soil along the way and the final quarter of a puzzle. If they failed, they would die on the path and the pieces would reduce to three.

The people who collected the puzzles would gather in the hall and prepare for the final battle. The final victor will get all the pieces and complete the puzzle which was the final reward.

As compared to the other wheels, one could give up on this final battle. The people who give up will lose everything they got here and then they would be teleported out.

Apart from that, Ye Zhongming was more interested. As the first person that passed, he had the power to ask for a fight.

This meant that he could select a space and wait for a group. Moreover, if he fought there and won, he could continue the loser's test and get the Fertile Soil in the space and then his puzzle. If he failed, then the puzzle and the soil would become that person's spoils.

Also, with that power, he could challenge and then choose not to continue on the test, obtaining the piece of the puzzle immediately. This was allowed. But if that person that was challenged won, he didn't have that right and still had to complete his own challenge.

Of course, the challenged side could give up and hand over the puzzle. He would then get kicked from the space.

Chapter 816: Who to select

Ye Zhongming took one look and felt like there were many ways to play around this battle feature.

First was the choice of target. Apart from Ye Zhongming, there were three other groups. Who should he select as his target? This wasn't a random choice, as this challenge could be used many times. You could even use it before they passed the test, meaning you could use it three times.

So, the first and last choices affected the success rate. Think about it: If you challenged the weakest person, then when you challenged the strongest person, that person might be in a weak state. If you chose the strongest, you might be badly injured even if you win, such that you couldn't even defeat the weakest person.

One could say that the challenge order was important, and he had to be very careful.

Next would be the location. The explanation mentioned that you could select any space on the path. As the challenges got tougher as it went on, normally speaking, it was best to snipe these opponents

in the final few spaces. But as the three soils had different stats, some people might not be badly injured when they faced a soil space of a certain color.

Black soil was the most common. If the challenged person was immune or had damage reduction in such a space, they might even be able to use the soil; if Ye Zhongming chose this place, it would be a huge problem. Not only would his challenge fail, he might get killed instead.

Of course, he could wait until everyone entered the final few spaces. The other soil colors would hurt them, and they wouldn't be in a good state. That would be the best opportunity.

But... There was still a problem: he didn't have much time!

He took a deep breath and looked at the three groups.

He took a deep breath and looked at the three groups. He had to challenge them quickly, win, and get the final reward. Then heads out and saves his subordinates.

Who should he choose?

Demon Monster? That fellow wasn't willing to fight outside but it went through the most spaces here. It was obvious that it could fight. The space prohibited energy, so its strength wasn't restricted. Its body gave it an advantage, so it wasn't wise to choose it.

The Death King Tree? But it was a level eight lifeform that absorbed the black soil. It might have even healed its injuries and might have been stronger. So many people surrounded it to barely defeat it. He didn't have much chance to win if he went alone.

Choose the four-person group? His head hurt. Although he was sure that his body was stronger than any of them, but he was alone, and there were four of them. It was impossible to dodge all attacks in that small space. If he was surrounded and attacked and couldn't use skills, he didn't have the confidence to kill them.

Moreover, he had to consider that this wasn't his only fight.

He moved around the pictures and clicked on a small space. He chose... The death King Tree as his first opponent!

Although it was a level eight lifeform, the highest level of the three of them, it could even absorb black soil to get stronger. But because it was a mutated plant, its skills were restricted, and it could only rely on its body. Its danger towards Ye Zhongming was the smallest.

Of course, this danger was relative. After all, its abilities were weird and it would catch him off guard. But he had another idea.

He picked a space and was teleported there. The Death King Tree just passed the space it was in, and the barrier broke. The human and tree met in such circumstances.

The Death King Tree was shocked.

Seeing the translucent tree that was not much taller than him, Ye Zhongming didn't feel like it was weaker than its peak.

"You, it is you!"

Intelligent lifeforms consider many things sometimes. Like now, the tree was shocked that Ye Zhongming would appear here and not ambush it. It wondered if it was in a trap. It wasn't like other mutated lifeforms that would charge at him immediately.

"It is me, I was the first to complete the challenge, so I gained some powers."

The Death King Tree looked at him suspiciously and had some guesses about what he just said.

"This is the final reward; kill you, and I will get another quarter."

Ye Zhongming raised the puzzle piece and showed it to the tree.

Killing intent flashed on her beautiful face. She was unhappy with what he said.

"Of course, you can kill me and get that final reward, but... I don't know if you can use it."

The tree was lost, and felt like Ye Zhongming was different today.

"If you can't, then to you, only the black soil is useful. Our battle would be meaningless."

"Why not? Let's have a trade."

This was the reason why he challenged it the first!

He could communicate with this tree, and they didn't have a conflict of interest.

The demon monster didn't have a human as a medium, so he couldn't talk to it. They didn't understand each other's meaning, so they couldn't work together. The humans had a conflict of interest with him. They wanted the soil and the final reward, so naturally, they couldn't talk calmly.

So, the Death King Tree was the best to talk to first to obtain the final reward.

"I can kill you and trade with the others."

The Death King Tree understood what Ye Zhongming meant, but she gave a cunning smile.

Ye Zhongming shook his head, "Let's not talk about you convincing the others; you are already not the first to pass the test, so you lost the right to challenge. You can only pass the spaces one by one and it will get more dangerous. You can't absorb the red and yellow soil, so you definitely don't feel good. Even if you pass the test, how strong will you be? Don't forget, you might not be able to kill me. You can't use World Nature here."

The Death King Tree's face became uncertain.

"We will work together, you give up, and after I get the final reward, I will... Return the Life Brain to you!"

Chapter 817: Bewitching

Even if the Death King Tree had high intelligence, it wasn't human. Its emotional control was weaker. When it heard about the Life Brain, it got emotional.

When Death King Tree was in Linhai, it controlled the entire city. Apart from treating the humans like food, it made this Life Brain, which displayed its highest ability.

But Ye Zhongming stole it.

Why was it so stubborn in following Ye Zhongming and Cloud Peak? Apart from wanting to take revenge, it wanted to get the Life Brain back!

This was its dream evolution method.

Now, this human actually said that he would return it to it?

The Death King Tree valued the Life Brain, so it instinctively assumed that Ye Zhongming would care about it, too. Since it was so important, were you lying to me if you wanted to return it?

Seeing the Death King Tree's expression change from emotional to suspicious, Ye Zhongming continued, "As compared to the rewards you would get here, the Life Brain isn't my first choice. That is something you created, and it fits your body the best. If we work together, it would be a win-win situation."

"I know that you are suspicious that I will go against my word. After all, the Life Brain isn't on me. But I can allow you to plant the Soul Vein on my body!"

Hearing Ye Zhongming say that, the Death King Tree was shocked, "How do you know about the Soul Vein!"

Ye Zhongming didn't reply. He scattered some black soil on the ground and placed a Cannibal Flower seed. After using nurture, a Cannibal Flower grew and matured.

Although the Death King Tree knew that Ye Zhongming had such an ability when the second Roselle Cedar appeared in Linhai, but it was still shocked even after seeing it.

It was like a human seeing another lifeform that could cause a baby to turn into a mature adult with a wave of his hands.

It was unbelievable.

To the Death King Tree, this was a type of god hand.

Ye Zhongming only did that and didn't explain. He couldn't explain but he acted mysterious and didn't say anything. He believed that with the Death King Tree's personality, it would connect the dots.

As expected, after seeing Ye Zhongming's ability, the Death King Tree believed that the human knew about it.

Soul Vein was a support ability that plants gained after reaching level seven. As plants, it was easy for individual plants to live in the same region. As they grew, their roots, which were many times larger than their crowns, would easily tangle with one another.

Under such a situation, if they wanted to evolve, they had to occupy the territory like humans and other animals, not allowing other plants to enter.

But many mutated plants didn't have moveable bodies, so if two plants met, they could only fight to the death.

As there were many mutated plants, much more than humans and mutated animals, the area below the ground was occupied by the roots of mutated plants. If such situations were too often, the number of mutated plants would reduce and they would fall from their ruling position on earth.

So when they evolved to a high level, they would have a support ability: Soul Vein. They could plant it in each other's body so that both sides could relax, work together, and live in the same region.

One could say that this was how mutated plants worked as groups and how they protected themselves, like humans working with each other.

Of course, this Soul Vein could be planted on other life forms. But the other side didn't have the same ability, so they wouldn't allow you to do it to them.

Now that Ye Zhongming said it could use Soul Vein on him, most of its worries have been reduced.

Soul Vein was a soul contract. They would discuss and write the contents onto the contract. They would both follow it. If one side went against it, they would be punished.

This was similar to law contracts in society.

"You really are sincere." The Death King Tree moved its body, and its tone was much gentler.

Ye Zhongming nodded, "Yes, that is because I can benefit greatly too."

Death King Tree's female face looked around, and it was tempted, but it still didn't make its mind up. Maybe it was considering the pros and cons or having other thoughts. This intelligent lifeform showed a side that Ye Zhongming was unsure of.

But he didn't worry as he had a killing move.

"Maybe our cooperation won't be a simple trade in the future. Our Cloud Peak might be able to help you fulfill your wish."

"What do you mean?"

Ye Zhongming knew there was a chance and said slowly, "We have a lab researching genes. We can merge human and mutated lifeform DNA. We just have to solve a few problems to have a perfect merge. Do you understand what I mean?"

It blinked and its expression got more exaggerated.

"Right, we might be able to get you... A perfect human body."

Ye Zhongming really used his trump card.

Who was the Death King Tree? What did it do? It was a mutated plant, but it incorporated a human face into its body and even kept a female corpse inside. It even made a brain similar to human brains.

It did so because... It wanted to turn into a human!

Not only the Death King Tree but many mutated lifeforms with such abilities had similar thoughts. The Talking Lady was an obvious example.

But it wasn't simple. The Talking Lady turned from a human into a zombie and just wanted to turn back. But the Death King Tree wasn't human. It was hard for it to evolve into a human.

It got a body and made a brain, but no one knew if it would work. It itself wasn't confident.

But after seeing Ye Zhongming's ability and hearing of his gene lab, it was really tempted.

Becoming human... That was a close-to-perfect structure.

"Can I really use the Soul Vein?" Death King Tree confirmed.

"Yes!" Ye Zhongming was frank.

The two of them laughed. One laughed because it was not worried, the other laughed because... It fell for it.

Chapter 818: Tail

Ye Zhongming had lived for ten years in the apocalypse. He wasn't used to; no, he definitely wouldn't hand his life to others.

Although the Soul Vein was similar to a contract and would disappear once you completed what you agreed to, who knew if this level eight mutated plant would add other things inside? If it did, Ye Zhongming would be forced to kill it or get controlled by it.

So when he suggested the Soul Vein, Ye Zhongming didn't think about following the agreement. It wasn't that he wanted to lie to the Death King Tree. On the contrary, he planned to fulfill the promise; it was just that he wasn't used to being restricted by others.

In the past, Ye Zhongming would rather fight the Death King Tree and have an outcome decided than make such an agreement. But things were different. He obtained Earth equipment and had a set stat. There was an ability there that could remove this negative state.

Although the Soul Vein wasn't hurtful it was still in a negative state, so it could be removed. So, to Ye Zhongming, this high-level mutated plant ability could, at most, last for two months on him. This was the cooldown of the Earth Gift. After which, Ye Zhongming would remove that mark.

Of course, he wasn't a nice person. He planned to use the Death King Tree as a helper. After heading out, he was due to return to the Secret Realm. If he held the Death King Tree hostage to follow him, he could deal with the kings. After returning to this world, he would let Liu Zhenghong study it. Science had to go through time and failure. Without a few years, how would you get an outcome?

It would spend some time in Cloud Peak and be well-fed. If anything happened to Cloud Peak, would it just watch? Even if it wanted to, what if Liu Zhenghong was in trouble? You would have to think carefully!

What if they could brainwash it? Ye Zhongming didn't mind turning it into a symbol of Cloud Peak.

Okay, that was a little far. But Ye Zhongming paved the future of the Death King Tree and was just forcing it onto that path.

Both sides started to swear, and they completed the Soul Vein quickly. It was just Ye Zhongming handing the Life Brain to it and helping it become a human. The Death King Tree would abandon the test and before they completed the agreement, they would live in peace.

“Why do I feel uneasy? Are you lying to me?”

Death King Tree’s female face was confused, and felt like Ye Zhongming’s gaze was shifty.

Ye Zhongming looked righteous and shook his head. He then touched his chin and looked at the Death King Tree suspiciously.

“Did you do anything to the Soul Vein?”

Death King Tree denied it immediately. Both sides gave a performance, and they split.

“Then I will wait for you outside.” before it gave up, the translucent body walked before him. Both sides signed the Soul Vein and couldn’t attack each other. Ye Zhongming didn’t try to defend.

“So fragrant, I really want to bite.” That female face sniffed him and then said, “But don’t die.”

It then looked at the two groups.

But before leaving, its words caused Ye Zhongming to panic a little, and he nearly fell.

“I think that since I will become human, how do you humans say goodbye? Oh right, if you are free, let’s have a meal? But plants are different. What should we say? Feed on pollen? En, no, that is not like a human.”

“Zhongming, if we are free, then let’s have s**!”

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As the Death King Tree gave up on the test, the tree was teleported out. The Fertile Soil it absorbed couldn’t be retracted, so it was able to benefit.

As it gave up, its test route was opened. The Fertile Soil in the space benefitted Ye Zhongming, and he kept them all before getting the puzzle piece.

He placed it together and took a close look. It was of a baby. But he could only see the bottom half. He guessed that it should be a baby with luxurious clothing. But he didn’t know what you would get if you completed the puzzle.

He returned to the hall and looked at the two remaining groups. He thought about it and chose the Demon Monster.

This was naturally not a rash choice. It was because although the demon monster was level eight, it was alone and pregnant. Even if it could fight, the baby would be its burden.

This place restricted energy, but it wasn’t restricted. Because of that, it wouldn’t be immune to the fertile soil, which meant that it would have to battle in each space.

If it passed many rooms, it wouldn’t be in a good state, so Ye Zhongming chose it naturally.

He entered a space and waited. A while later, the demon monster appeared.

Ye Zhongming’s appearance was what the demon monster expected. It looked at the human holding a blade and knew that a battle was unavoidable.

It charged into the space and pounced at the human.

The demon monster could choose to work with him outside because it relied on him to enter the space. But after getting in, it would be a lie to say that they would work together.

When they met again, they would have to fight to the death.

Ye Zhongming looked at its stomach. It had turned green like there was a lamp within. Ye Zhongming easily saw what was going on inside. There was a demon monster curled up. Just one looked, and his expression changed.

He recalled a rumor in his last life that there were a few exceptionally strong demon monsters. The most terrifying one was called Tail. It was a mutated demon monster that had three long and thin tails.

Now, the baby he was looking at, had three tails.

Chapter 819: Fighting to the death

The demon monster roared and clashed with Ye Zhongming. Blood splattered.

Ye Zhongming's body wasn't afraid of the demon monster. He was even holding Sand Dance. As long as he could keep up, he had the natural advantage with the blue weapon.

The space was small, and if both sides fought, they would leave wounds on each other. Ye Zhongming's body had multiple cuts, but the demon monster was injured, too.

But compared to Ye Zhongming, it had blade wounds, which were deeper and longer. They were much heavier than those on Ye Zhongming.

The demon monster retreated, and its face still looked vicious. But deep in its eyes was disbelief.

Such a short time, so why was this guy much stronger? In the past, he couldn't keep up with it.

This demon monster could communicate with Ye Zhongming through those methods, so it was very smart. It realized that it was very surprising for Ye Zhongming to appear here.

It didn't choose to attack. It retreated and looked at him warily.

Ye Zhongming didn't stop. Be it the wheel reward or the fact that the demon monster could be the strong Tail; he had to kill it.

He stepped forwards, and Sand Dance flicked upwards. Ye Zhongming, who had the gravity reduction passive, was extremely quick. In just a flash, he was in front of the Demon Monster.

This blade sliced at its stomach!

It screamed. Ye Zhongming was targeting its kid, which infuriated it!

Even if it had mutated into a demon monster, but it was still a mother. It would fight whoever dared to touch its kid.

The demon monster screamed and retreated. It pulled its stomach back while moving its right hand over. Its fingernails slashed at Ye Zhongming's head.

It relied on its height advantage to attack.

Their speeds were similar, but Ye Zhongming had a blade. He had the range advantage. The demon monster couldn't dodge in the narrow space and chose a battle of attrition.

If Ye Zhongming didn't dodge, his blade could slice the stomach but his head would be hit. The outcome would be that Ye Zhongming would suffer a heavier injury.

As expected, Ye Zhongming dodged and retracted his blade. He went from a flick to a horizontal slash. He spun his body and tried to use the momentum to continue attacking the demon monster's stomach.

The demon monster retreated, raising its fists to hit Ye Zhongming.

Both of them fought without fear. One side would get injured, and blood would splatter.

"That is Ye Zhongming and that monster?"

The four-person group had just passed a space, and while obtaining the Fertile Soil, they suffered injuries.

Fortunately, they hadn't passed many spaces. The four of them were together, each taking a quarter of the hits, so it was much simpler for them.

Hearing An Man say that, the others looked and saw two figures fighting. The green blade was easy to recognize.

"We can't confirm that it is Ye Zhongming." Zuo Jinxuan wasn't as sharp as before. She was injured. When the four of them were tanking hits, this wasn't something to be proud of. Ye Zhongming alone made it so far. This was the first time she had some recognition for that guy.

"It should be." Ji Ruiguang squinted his eyes.

"Good that they are fighting; it is best if they all die here." An Man smiled. He hoped that both of them suffered huge injuries.

Jayce and Ji Ruiguang looked at each other.

"Why?" Zuo Jinxuan sensed that something was up and asked.

Ji Ruiguang frowned, "The path we take is fixed?"

Zuo Jinxuan and An Man didn't know why Ji Ruiguang asked that, but they still nodded. Each space they passed, a barrier would descend to reveal the next space. They couldn't choose.

"Since that is the case, be it the monster or Ye Zhongming, they should follow this rule. But if that person is Ye Zhongming, it proved that they ran to the same space. But how did that happen? Did their paths cross which was why they met there? Or could someone use other methods to enter the other person's path?"

Ji Ruiguang was indeed the leader of a resistance zone. Through one fight, he observed something different.

“If it is the first case, then we are in danger. But I observed Ye Zhongming and that monster’s path as well as our own; our paths are all straight.”

The others understood what he meant. Since their paths headed forward, they wouldn’t intersect. Then Ye Zhongming battling that monster should be because one side chose to meet.

They stared at the monster and it didn’t change paths. So there was only one possibility. It was Ye Zhongming. He had a way to get there and fight!

“Commander, are you worried Ye Zhongming would come here?”

An Man touched the scar on his bald head.

“No, I am worried that he has a secret we don’t know about.”

The four of them were silent and didn’t know how to react to the situation.

Ye Zhongming’s battle with the demon monster reached its most intense moment. They were like primitive humans and beasts, relying on their bodies to battle.

Their blood seeped into the ground, but they continued to fight.

After taking two steps back, Ye Zhongming’s naked upper body was covered in wounds. Blood dyed his body and he couldn’t see a part of his body that was okay.

The demon monster was in a bad state, too. As it had to protect the kid, Ye Zhongming used that to worsen its injuries. Its arm, back, and even head had many wounds. Some were so deep that you could see the bone. Two of its fingers on its left had been sliced off.

But it relied on its strong body to not collapse.

Both of them used what they had.

The demon monster smiled weirdly, and Ye Zhongming’s face twitched.

Both sides knew that it was time to decide life and death.

Chapter 820: C-section

The demon monster bent its body and looked at Ye Zhongming with its red eyes.

That arm with the broken finger touched her stomach while the other pressed the ground. Blood dripped, causing a dripping sound.

Ye Zhongming bent his waist. The blood covered the green light of his pants. Only Sand Dance was shining as he pointed the blade at it.

Both of them focused on this final attack.

They moved at the same time. But they didn’t charge at each other.

Ye Zhongming started to collect the Fertile Soil.

Although Ye Zhongming chose this space, in truth, the demon monster hadn’t given up and was still in the test. This meant that the test was still going on.

As expected, as Ye Zhongming started to collect the Fertile Soil, many wooden serpents appeared from the ground and started attacking the two.

Ye Zhongming didn't care. This was the black soil space, and the attacks on him were much weaker. Apart from Nature Soul Essence and the Earth equipment, apart from blocking those that attacked his fatal parts, he ignored the rest and continued to collect the soil.

This caught the demon monster off guard. But it couldn't stop. It had already stabbed its hand into its stomach!

Liquid, along with blood, flowed from its hand. It instinctively shouted. Those wooden serpents hit its body but it was as if it didn't feel anything.

It wasn't wise for the demon monster to do that now. It was tall and strong and occupied a big area. These wooden serpents mostly hit it. It was badly injured and could only hold on for a few seconds before it was on the verge of collapsing.

But every time it was about to fall, a certain power would support it for it to continue standing.

When Ye Zhongming collected all the Fertile Soil, the wooden serpents were at their peak, and the entire space was about to be filled.

This was already close to the final area, so the tests were very challenging.

Because of that, Ye Zhongming didn't notice the abnormal thing that the demon monster was doing. When he realized, the demon monster had already pulled the baby out of its stomach.

Ye Zhongming couldn't understand that. From a human standpoint, a mother would rather die to protect her children. But what the demon monster did was so that the baby wouldn't be injured. For that, it was injured by Ye Zhongming.

But why did it pull the baby out of its stomach that it was protecting? Did it feel like the kid affected its fight?

The wooden serpents disappeared, and the barrier to the next space descended. Ye Zhongming rested on it while trying to suppress his pain.

He chose such a method because he wasn't confident in killing that demon monster. So, he used the mutated plant lifeforms whose damage to him was reduced and activated the test in this space.

He believed that the test was enough to kill the demon monster.

But when he looked, he had a complicated expression.

That demon monster was on the verge of death, but it still protected the kid. The wooden serpents smashed its back, legs, and even head. It looked like its bones and tendons were smashed.

It tried to get up but failed after trying a few times. In the end, it straightened its back but only lasted for two seconds before it sat down.

But that was enough. The demon monster held the child in its hands and treated it like a treasure. It didn't look like someone who just ripped it out of its own stomach.

Ye Zhongming stood up because it saw the demon monster squeezing the umbilical cord with one hand. A red liquid entered the little demon monster's body. It suddenly opened its eyes and cried.

Ye Zhongming's head felt numb, and didn't know what the demon monster wanted to do.

It broke the cord with its fingers and placed the little demon monster by its mouth. It then opened its mouth wide.

What was it going to do?

Ye Zhongming's heart beat quickly. Was this demon monster going to eat its child? If it was the future Tail, then would its mother kill it without Ye Zhongming having to do anything?

But immediately, the truth proved him wrong.

Its chest rose, and a thick, sticky liquid appeared in its mouth.

Ye Zhongming stared and saw that the liquid had different colors. Although they weren't obvious but there were three colors.

Red, yellow, and black!

These were the colors of the fertile soil!

All of a sudden, Ye Zhongming realized many things!

This demon monster was pregnant, so why did it risk its life to enter this space? Why would it choose to work with Ye Zhongming instead of forcing him? Why didn't it fight him outside but pass through the tests here?

Did it come for the fertile soil?

The fertile soil wasn't for it but for its child?

Ye Zhongming felt uncomfortable. He got up and charged because many things had broken out of his control. He understood too little about these lifeforms, and it had done something he couldn't understand right under his nose.

Seeing Ye Zhongming's reaction, the demon monster laughed weirdly. It covered its kid's mouth and forced it to swallow that blob. It then placed the kid beneath its stomach and rested on it.

Ye Zhongming's Sand Dance arrived.

The sharp blade stabbed into the demon monster's eyes. This lifeform that was close to level eight didn't make a sound. Its body twitched.

Thinking about the calamity that Tail caused humans, Ye Zhongming's eyes turned red. He wanted to kill this pair and had to complete this mission. But things didn't seem right.

He pulled Sand Dance out and stabbed it into the other eye. The demon monster couldn't take it anymore and died. Ye Zhongming tossed it aside, but the area beneath it was empty.

The demon monster with tails... Had disappeared.