

Apocalypse 961

Chapter 961: Five Ring Money's goal

Ye Zhongming looked at this person's left chest, where he wore an accessory with five copper rings connected.

Five Ring Money.

Since the Sharp Peak Mountain base meeting, this was the second time that Ye Zhongming had bumped into this faction.

This organization was famous in his last life. They did all sorts of business that could earn money—selling population, underground fights, trading information, assassination, etc. They would even do some deals that would only happen in the apocalypse.

Ye Zhongming had heard that a big faction's leader had started a servant nurturing plan, which they had invited Five Ring Money to complete for them.

There were all sorts of young children, mentally ill guys and girls, siblings that had changed their genders, etc., were all done by this organization.

Although Ye Zhongming wasn't a good person in his last life, he felt some hatred and disgust for what this organization did.

In this life, this group even wanted to work with others at Sharp Peak Mountain to con him, which further worsened his impression of them.

If Ye Zhongming were still that small six-star evolved in his last life, then he would definitely hide from them if he couldn't offend them. If he had no choice but to come into contact with them, he would behave politely and even bend his back.

He had no choice,; they could crush him just by reaching their fingers out.

But in this life, Ye Zhongming had the ability to face off against anyone. He was at the peak of mankind's evolution. His fear of Five Ring Money had disappeared.

So, he didn't hide his coldness toward this organization. He sat down and asked, "What is your price?"

Five Ring Money's member had been looking at Ye Zhongming when he entered the room and had captured all his expressions. This matched the information he had, and he had a plan.

"I am Liu Chengyu, one of Deacon Water's six butlers."

Ye Zhongming pouted as he listened. It was the apocalypse, so people liked to act cool and create things that were in novels or ancient times.

Liu Chengyu continued to smile as if he didn't notice Ye Zhongming's disdain, "The bet in Sharp Peak Mountain was Deacon Ouyang's men. Deacon Ouyang and Deacon Water are all deacons of Five Ring Money."

He paused and said, "They are on the same level."

Ye Zhongming's brow raised. He looked at this 30-year-old guy with interest.

This was the first time he heard information about Five Ring Money.

Deacon?

Was that what they called their leaders?

“Mr. Ye, Deacon Water knows that you need Crescent Moon Blood Stone, so he told me to send it over personally after getting it. Apart from completing this trade, he hopes to gain your friendship. Don't you agree that sometimes friends are more important than enemies?”

Ye Zhongming continued to look at him expressionlessly.

It wasn't that he underestimated Five Ring Money. Any faction that could gain a footing in the apocalypse and become a super faction had their skills. They were very strong and had their trump cards.

Ye Zhongming wasn't interested in fighting them as long as they didn't offend him.

But now that they were saying all this to him, he was slightly annoyed. Gain my friendship? Then why don't you just gift me the blood stone? Then we will be friends. But since you aren't gifting it to me, then what nonsense are you speaking?

Seeing that Ye Zhongming didn't say anything, he felt awkward. He thought about it and decided to enter the main topic.

“We got the blood stone from our dungeon. I won't talk about how tough it was. You should understand how much we had to give up. So we hope to get a good price.”

This butler didn't explain much, but Ye Zhongming knew they had come prepared.

Cloud Peak's Moon Edge and Sand Dance wasn't a secret. Many people knew that Ye Zhongming had the blueprints for this weapon. Although they didn't know the materials needed, but Cloud Peak's search for the materials was an open secret.

Five Ring Money guessed what he needed so they came to do this deal. They were openly telling Ye Zhongming that they wanted to earn money from him.

Sand Dance could reach blue grade, so what about Moon Sand?

It would be a higher level. So how could this material be cheap?

Ye Zhongming looked at Liu Chengyu and then shifted his gaze away.

“The thing is very secretive, so don't think about snatching it.”

Although Cloud Peak's reputation had been good and Liu Chengyu was just joking, he felt afraid when Ye Zhongming glanced at him.

“The price.”

Liu Chengyu turned his wrist and said, “A six-star potion and a blue piece of equipment.”

“You can scam.”

Ye Zhongming stood up and squinted his eyes, "You should be lucky that I don't plan to fight with Five Ring Money. If not, you would have already died."

Ye Zhongming was planning to be conned. After all, he needed this thing, but it didn't mean that they could give it a sky-high price.

Six-star potion? Cloud Peak didn't have any reserve, and no one knew when they would get it the next time. Also, what was the concept of blue-grade equipment? Cloud Peak only had a few. Moreover, only Ye Zhongming had many blue-grade equipment.

In the Chain Prisoner battle, the blue blade and armor were destroyed. Ye Zhongming only had a few pieces left.

This fellow really dared to give a price.

"Mr Ye, everything can be discussed!"

Liu Chengyu saw Ye Zhongming's rage and knew it was far above what they would pay. He stood up and smiled, "How about this? We want ten level seven crystals."

Ye Zhongming laughed coldly, "If you are lucky, that is a seven-star potion. Your price is getting higher?"

"No no no, Mr Ye, it isn't calculated like that." He said, "You are talking about the extreme. No one can ensure that they could get any potion, even a one-star potion."

Ye Zhongming knew that he himself could.

"Another, definitely not."

Liu Chengyu said slowly, "Actually, if you can agree some things, then we don't mind gifting it to you."

"What?" Ye Zhongming asked. He knew that what this person was going to talk about was their final goal.

Chapter 962: Free gift

"First time is that our Five Ring Money, no, Deacon Water, wants to work with Cloud Peak to manage... Some things together."

Ye Zhongming squinted his eyes, "We aren't selling crystal weapons."

Liu Chengyu shook his head, "Mr. Ye misunderstood me. We don't need crystal weapons; we need... Your gene warriors!"

Ye Zhongming was stunned and didn't expect that repair.

Indeed, gene warriors and crystal weapons were Cloud Peak's two cores.

However, compared to crystal weapons, which were more useful and famous, the gene warriors seemed ordinary. Apart from the explosive warriors that appeared previously, they didn't have much mature gene techniques.

Of course, Ye Zhongming knew that the reason for the crystal weapons was him. He told Le Dayuan about the theories and models from his last life, which was why Le Dayuan could use his knowledge and progress quickly.

However, Ye Zhongming only had a rough understanding of gene techniques. He didn't even need to say anything and Liu Zhenghong would know about what he knew. The understanding of Liu Zhenghong and gene lifeforms stopped at Frankenstein-like beings in his last life.

Ye Zhongming only provided things for Liu Zhenghong to experiment with, and the various machines. But in the end, she had to work from scratch.

It was already really decent that she had achieved their current goals.

Especially Barr's Potion. Although it was banned, if Cloud Peak was in danger, it was still a trump card that was worth using.

Ye Zhongming felt that Liu Zhenghong's lab's usefulness would catch up to the crystal weapons lab and would even exceed it. It might even become the future of mankind and Earth.

Who knew that Five Ring Money would be interested in the gene lab?

One had to say that they had good taste.

"Anyone whose secrets are being targetted would be filled with rage and anxiousness, much less an army. Are you not afraid that your request will anger us?"

Ye Zhongming had calmed down, and his tone had not changed in intonation. But this gave Liu Chengyu the feeling that he was facing a level nine beast.

"I think you understood what I said wrongly." He tried calming himself, "Five Ring Money is a business, not a battle. We need gene lifeforms. Not an army but those few specialized models. Sorry, I didn't know what you called them, so allow me to use the model. I, or rather, Five Ring Money, need those that can cause a huge impact. Those that look special and are stronger."

"We need them to fight things like underground arenas. The more exciting, the better."

Liu Chenngyu continued, "Don't be in a hurry to reject us; you can consider it. It is a win-win situation. We need special participants for our arena. You can treat them as your testing ground. We will earn money, and you will provide the technology to create better models. Why not?"

Ye Zhongming was slightly tempted.

This person made sense.

Liu Zhenghong faced some difficulties when it was time to experiment on the gene warriors.

If she found some mutated lifeforms to test on, no matter if they won or lost, there was a limit in information. After all, mutated lifeforms could only battle on instinct. They couldn't provide detailed information for her.

The best choice was naturally evolved, as they could test them in many areas. For example, how strong were their bodies, skills, and reactions? They could test the strengths and weaknesses of the gene lifeform and obtain a valuable plan for future improvement.

But it was dangerous to test them on survivors as those survivors might die at any moment. Even if they were injured, the unstable gene lifeforms might corrupt their genes and cause unexpected mutations.

Cloud Peak had to spend a lot of effort on each experiment.

If there was a place where Cloud Peak could test many different types and levels of gene lifeforms, it could solve this problem to some extent.

“We also have one condition which is similar to the one before. We hope for Cloud Peak to provide us with specialized... Warriors, beasts, or even lifeforms that are rare or not from earth.”

Liu Chengyu finished and gave Ye Zhongming time to digest.

Ye Zhongming knew that he couldn't hide the Posthumous people for long. After all, so many weird warriors had appeared in Cloud Peak. This would definitely spread from the mouths of the Ying City factions.

But they didn't expect Five Ring Money to not only find out so quickly, but they even guessed that Ye Zhongming had opened a tunnel to the Secret Realm.

This made him feel a sense of danger.

The Secret Realm was slowly turning into his biggest trump card. Now that people knew about it, it was dangerous.

Five Ring Money knew about it, so they would get news soon even if other factions didn't.

“If we can agree on these two conditions, we will pay the relevant payment. We won't let you lose out.”

“The creation of interest would increase with each additional item. As long as others don't easily break the foundations, the faction would last longer.”

“Five Ring Money are businessmen, and everything is for interests. Now, both sides have a base to work together. We need to earn money, and you need a way to earn more from your resources. I can't see any reason why we shouldn't work together.”

“Mr. Ye, don't worry, Deacon Water is sincere; she can even... I won't talk about that. When you meet her, she can tell you about it personally.”

Liu Chengyu bowed and smiled, “You don't have to rush to make a decision. Think carefully. You can give us a reply at Bright Water Feast.”

He handed an exquisite invitation to Ye Zhongming.

“I represent Deacon Water to invite Mr Ye to our Bright Water Feast. When the time comes, please give us face and come.”

Liu Chengyu started to walk outwards. Only at the door did he say, "Someone will send the Crescent Moon Blood Stone over, and you can just take it. Oh, it isn't one piece but three pieces."

He smiled. This butler bowed again before leaving.

Chapter 963: Bloodied Blade

Ye Zhongming was slightly surprised by Five Ring Money's actions, but it felt expected.

This organization would never take a loss. They were interested in Cloud Peak's gene lifeform and suggested such a way to work together. This proved that as long as Cloud Peak agreed, they would have a way to earn the money back. No, they could use this cooperation to earn more money.

Liu Chengyu knew how to grasp one's thoughts. He had tested Ye Zhongming and was sure he needed the Crescent Moon Bloodstone, so he negotiated like that.

The truth was that he succeeded. If he passed the stone to Ye Zhongming, would he reject it? Would he not be tempted by this material that could craft Moon Sand?

Moreover, it was three pieces. This gave him three chances to craft the item.

Ye Zhongming would take the stone, meaning he would work with Five Ring Money.

Take the item but choose not to work together?

Not to mention that Cloud Peak and Ye Zhongming, who cared about their reputation, wouldn't do that, even if they had such a thought; their external environment meant that they couldn't do it.

Just count how many enemies Cloud Peak had. There was Soul Merchant and Glory Army, God Hall, whose main group had escaped, the resistance zone, Assassin Heart... If one added Five Ring Money, then Cloud Peak was facing the world.

What made Ye Zhongming more restrained was that he had a war to fight. Saint Light Hall had a level nine person. People of that level had given him a deep impression in his last life. In this life, he was definitely nervous to face such a person.

To be honest, he was facing that person in the Secret Realm. If he couldn't defeat him, at most, he would just escape with the key. If it were on Earth, Ye Zhongming definitely wouldn't offend them.

So, when a wooden box with three pieces of stone was delivered to him, Ye Zhongming kept them.

Work together then. With Cloud Peak's strength, he wasn't afraid of Five Ring Money. They had what they needed. If the other side tried anything funny, Ye Zhongming would just fight back.

Crescent Moon Bloodstone wasn't the most precious material, but was the hardest to get as it didn't have much use and was very rare. Now that he had three pieces, he started to collect the other materials.

Besides Cloud Peak searching for the materials, they would use Puxing Town's bounty mission and Cannibal Chain.

He was one step away, so he didn't mind spending some money.

While collecting the materials, he also solved the second matter.

Professor He.

This fellow became more well-behaved when Ye Zhongming returned to Cloud Peak. Especially after Ye Zhongming killed the Chain Prisoner, he even found Ye Zhongming and gave many ideas and suggestions.

But Ye Zhongming knew that it was fake.

If there wasn't the level eight King Kun Ling in the lab and Cloud Peak didn't kill the Chain Prisoner with only three battle squads, would this fellow be so well-behaved?

The answer was negative. Just look at his experiments, and you could guess.

So, Ye Zhongming had to finish him to put himself at ease.

Apart from that, Professor He's research ability was another reason.

He was of no value.

Was that cruel? Right, it was, but that was the truth. This was the apocalypse. It would be okay if Professor He behaved well. Unfortunately, he planned to use Cloud Peak as his stepping stone.

Ye Zhongming wouldn't allow that.

Professor He had a bad feeling about Ye Zhongming's sudden appearance. But he thought he was lucky and faced him with a smile.

"Boss, why are you here? Come and have a seat."

Professor He called Ye Zhongming who was young enough to be his son, boss. Along with his face, which looked less like a human, it sent chills down one's spine.

Ye Zhongming smiled and entered his lab. He looked around and frowned at the smell.

There was fragrance with a bit of stench.

"Professor He..."

"You want to kill me?"

The mood changed, and the smiles disappeared.

King Ling Kun touched his finger and didn't react. Professor He's subordinates took several steps back.

"Very good, very good." Professor He smiled coldly.

His subordinates actually chose to betray him.

"Very good. We don't have to be worried that you will kill us."

The youngest researcher looked at Professor He with clenched fists.

As long as one was normal, they wouldn't want to live such a life.

"Stupid! Without me, do you think you can continue working in Cloud Peak in this lab? Without me, all of you will get chased out!"

Professor He raised his voice, and his body also retreated.

“We will remain here. We know what you do; we also know what you don’t know.”
That subordinate looked at Ye Zhongming before leading everyone out of the lab.

“Traitor! Traitor!”

Professor He raised his arm, and a pink mist spurted out. But the moment it spurted, his expression changed. He held his chest and retreated, only stopping when he bumped into the wall.

“You! What did you do to me?”

Ye Zhongming shook his head, “Your subordinates did it. But if you think I did it, then I will accept.”

“Despicable! Despicable!” Professor He felt weak. He knew that his subordinates had mixed something else into the thing that was injected into him.

“Fight me like a man. You won’t be my match. I am an eight-star evolved!” Professor He shouted emotionally. His body tilted and grabbed something at an angle Ye Zhongming couldn’t see.

Ye Zhongming looked at him and didn’t say a word.

Professor He tossed the thing in his hands but several sharp crystal branches shot from the wall behind him, piercing his limbs and body.

“Oh, oh, I hate this fellow. So smelly!”

Death King Tree’s voice spread from behind the wall. She grumbled to Ye Zhongming.

Ye Zhongming walked to the side of the bleeding Professor He and took the thing in his hands. He waved it at Professor He.

“Thanks.”

After which, Ling Kun and he walked out of the lab. Liu Zhenghong appeared. In her hands was a white experiment case.

Professor He saw and used his last bit of strength to exclaim.

Chapter 964: Taking a gamble

“Liu Zhenngong, Professor Liu, Sister Liu...” Professor He lay weakly on the experiment table. He was naked, and the places where the Death King Tree pierced were brushed with medicine. The wounds there were healing.

Liu Zhenghong, her two assistants, and the Death King Tree, who was much smaller now, stood aside and stared at the wounds.

“Very good. Healing ability is A+. Record the blood pressure as well as heart rate.”

She ignored Professor He and continued to give instructions. She took out silver tools from her case.

Ye Zhongming specially made this.

“Save me, save me, and I will tell you a secret.” Professor He felt fear from the bottom of his soul.

He was a gene expert and knew that many things in this world were more terrifying than death.

Seeing Liu Zhenghong, he knew that Ye Zhongming and her had planned it long in advance. They had even thought about what to do to him.

Although Liu Zhenghong didn’t have the bad reputation she did in his last life, she still created gene warriors. Professor He thought about how he would end up as her test product and felt numb.

When he used other living beings as guinea pigs, he heard them scream and cry. The soul-ripping pain, the despair on their faces, and the desire to die. Professor He had lost all his principles and the bottom line now that the tables were turned.

If Liu Zhenghong could let him go, he would do anything.

“Secret?” Liu Zhenghong smiled coldly, but her hands didn’t stop, “Are there any secrets in this world? A treasure?”

“No, no, God Hall’s research results. The results of our chief!”

Liu Zhenghong smiled and showed no interest that Professor He had hoped for.

“Do you know I see God Hall’s nature on your body?” Liu Zhenghong said. She injected a bottle of red liquid into him, “What, what is that?” He screamed as it was injected into his left kidney.

“Your research is just matching together organs. You don’t study how to remove the rejection. You don’t study how to make the genes match. You don’t study how to create life. You are just spending time studying how to match higher-level lifeforms.”

Liu Zhenghong stared at the numbers on the machine. Based on their changes, she injected unknown things into his organs. One of them was a worm-shaped lifeform. She used her mocking tone and spoke to Professor He, who was starting to lose consciousness.

“You aren’t a research lab; you are a store. The only difference from selling milk powder and snacks is that you sell mutated lifeforms.”

Liu Zhenghong pulled up his eyelids to see the changes. She then said, “Do you know that I have been wondering if the wheel will reject the lifeforms that you create?”

Professor He couldn’t retort. He felt really bad and couldn’t resist at all.

“Oh, you mentioned your chief’s secret. Isn’t it just experiments on humans? I know, you don’t have to tell me about it.”

The moment she said that, one of the markers on the machine changed before calming back down.

“Thank you for giving us such a good test subject. Don’t worry, Professor, you won’t die. You will exist in another form. Maybe in the near future, you will represent Cloud Peak’s highest technological level.”

“Of course, you won’t be able to see it.”

Before losing consciousness, this was the last thing he heard.

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After dealing with Professor He, Cloud Peak’s labs had no more dangers. King Kun Ling was free and was sent back to the Secret Realm. Ye Zhongming remained in the Secret Realm and brought Xia Bai, Park Xiuying, and the three-nosed elephant. Sheng Yuan, Kun Ling and Hong Xiang were all here.

“Zhongming, why did you call us here?”

The few of them were outside the mountain where the Imperial City was in. Hong Xiang saw that Ye Zhongming was very solemn. He didn’t look at him like a young kid anymore and treated him as an equal, even someone superior.

At least, Hong Xiang knew that if the two of them fought, he would die.

Ye Zhongming didn’t reply. He took out something. This was the third thing he was going to do.

“One Step Board!”

Xia Bai recognized it. She was shocked. Anxiousness flashed on her face.

She didn’t want Ye Zhongming to spin the purple equipment they got from the Sharp Peak Mountain auction.

This board went against what Ye Zhongming knew. Although he didn’t use it, he often took it out to study.

As Ye Zhongming’s closest person and bodyguard, she knew that Ye Zhongming was helpless against the board.

Ye Zhongming had the Super Elimination Technique. Glory Smith, elite job, Ghost Metal, Earth Elf, etc., were all trump cards. But without the elimination technique, Ye Zhongming would find things tough.

This skill was his golden finger.

However, such an ability was not effective against the One Step Board.

Ye Zhongming could eliminate five options on a level nine wheel before spinning. However, facing this board with only eight options, his technique was restricted.

He could only eliminate two of them.

This wheel had half reward and half punishment. Removing two meant that there were two punishments left.

What were the four punishments? A level eight beast, a curse that absorbed mental energy, a punishment of two extreme environments, and also... All reward explosion!

Removing two meant that you had a one-third chance of getting a punishment. No one could ensure they were lucky enough not to get the punishment.

However, with the level nine expert on his back, he could run if he failed, but he would lose the secret realm. He couldn't accept that. So, he decided to take a risk and spin the wheel.

He wanted to take a gamble.

Chapter 965: Red Hair that went out of control

The current Cloud Peak was in an industrial revolution state.

Due to the large need for defensive equipment in the Secret Realm, apart from certain groups, the crystal weapons lab stopped developing new weapons and fully focused on producing various weapons.

Giant bed crossbow, crystal weapon blueprints, crossbows, wooden spikes, traps... As long as they could help the city defense and even the fights, Cloud Peak was crafting them.

The gun production line that Mu Xinfei brought over was thrown into production—coal, fuels, metal, etc. Cloud Peak needed anything that had to do with crafting. Each day, large amounts of caravans would deliver these things to Cloud Peak.

A furnace had been set up near the downwind portion of Cloud Peak. It wasn't huge, but the style was a little weird. After all, from the energy system to the execution system, there were too many traces of the wheel's technology. This was very different from traditional Earth factories.

This was forced by reality. The apocalypse was chaotic, changing society's structure and technological system. Research and tech members weren't common, so there was unavoidably a knowledge gap.

Only organizations and factions like the Glory Army or the Resistance Zone could maintain a perfect system.

Of course, when god closed a door, he would open a window.

The products of the wheel replaced the loss of technology. From small tools and light sources to generators, energy sources, large machinery, etc., they were all produced from the wheel.

Although there wasn't much, which would mean that industrials and technology would weaken, it allowed organizations to maintain some modern production ability.

This was a hot spot of contention in the apocalypse.

Cloud Peak was trying to obtain these and bring in people with the knowledge. Although Ye Zhongming didn't know what would happen in the future, at least for now, he had to maintain the needs of the crystal weapons lab and gun production line.

Compared to the buzz outside, Ye Zhongming's villa was cold and quiet.

There would be some weird sounds from the closed door, and many spikes would pierce out from the new wooden door, leaving many holes.

Xia Lei and Liu Zhenghong looked at each other and were worried.

It quietened down. From the holes in the wooden door, they saw Red Hair sitting there and not moving.

The two of them entered, and it was a mess. Everything was shattered. The spikes that came from Red Hair's body turned this place into a cave.

Since she covered for Ye Zhongming so he could enter the city, Red Hair's injuries had fluctuated.

They thought she was fine, and she even led her subordinates to Ying City to plan to attack the rat horde. But at the start of the battle, Red Hair realized a problem. She retreated, which confused the Rat King.

After returning to Cloud Peak, Ye Zhongming, Park Xiuying, Liu Zhenghong, etc, did some tests but didn't find the reason. Liu Zhenghong had spent a long time in the labs analyzing Red Hair.

"Did the black souls that could corrode mental energy cause this?"

Xia Lei and Red Hair had fought together before. After becoming Ye Zhongming's woman, she had Ye Zhongming's scent, so Red Hair treated her better than others.

Xia Lei and many from Cloud Peak had treated Red Hair as a partner.

After that weird ability hit her, Red Hair would lose control of the spikes. The spike storm that shattered everything in the room resulted from her losing control.

Although the spikes would just casually whip things, the gap between her losing control was getting shorter and shorter. Apart from spinning the One Step Wheel, Ye Zhongming headed to the Secret Realm to find some soul pearls to see if they could treat Red Hair.

Liu Zhenghong squatted down and looked at Red Hair. She sighed and took out a metal injector. She tapped Red Hair's hand and then pressed it onto her arm.

"She just solved the problem with her eyes, and now she has lost control of her ability. This girl is really unlucky."

The core members knew about what happened to Red Hair. Liu Zhenghong injected the liquid before keeping her stuff and chatting with Xia Lei.

The two of them walked out. Liu Zhenghong had just injected a nutrient potion to increase her body's energy, but it couldn't stop her from losing control. So, it was better that they left quickly. If not, the moment she lost control, the two of them would have to defend.

But before they walked out of the room, there was some cracking from behind them. They turned their head and saw black lines on Red Hair's human-like face. They stretched upwards from her neck and were about to reach her eyes.

At the same time, the spikes around started to move. They trembled, and many thin red lines appeared.

Red Hair's symbol was her long hair, which was changing, too. Some leaves grew from them, making her look like a spikey flower.

"Not good; her gene is in chaos!"

Liu Zhenghong exclaimed. She didn't investigate and just dragged Xia Lei out.

"Clear the area, get the main squad over. If Red Hair goes out of control, kill her. Also, head to the Secret Realm to get Ye Zhongming back!"

No one knew how much damage a level seven mutated lifeform with thousands of high-level subordinates would cause, especially since they were within Cloud Peak. If things went wrong, they might destroy everything Ye Zhongming had built up over the last two years!

Although Red Hair had followed Ye Zhongming since the start, but if she lost control, she would have to be killed.

Xia Lei nodded and gave the order. The entire Cloud Peak got to work.

Red Hair had charged through the roof and jumped to an empty piece of land. Hundreds of vines were dancing around her. Those zombies that were at the corner of Cloud Peak started to get violent. They broke out of the houses they were in and rushed to Red Hair.

Chapter 966: Second Life

One Step Wheel stood tall in the dark Blue Secret Realm. The people around were very nervous.

There are eight choices, four rewards, and four punishments. The rewards were naturally good, but no one paid attention to them. They were all staring at the punishments.

Hong Xiang and Ling Kun also knew the punishments, as they had to prepare for accidents that might occur. They looked at Ye Zhongming with a complicated expression.

Even if Ye Zhongming didn't say anything, they knew the reason why this young man wanted to spin this dangerous thing. It was so that they could face the level nine Saint Light Hall expert.

Although they didn't know why Ye Zhongming was sure Saint Light Hall would send everything they had, they knew this partner wouldn't lie to them. He took such a huge risk to spin the wheel because he wanted to help the Posthumous people.

But, the punishments scared them.

After the trip to Earth, they understood the wheel and knew the real use of demon crystals. Many Posthumous people even spun the wheels themselves.

But as they were of different species, they didn't need potions as much as humans. Potions could increase their strength, but there was a limit. This meant that they didn't care as much about the wheels.

Ye Zhongming could give them everything they needed, and they suited them better than those from the wheel.

But this was the first time they had seen such a terrifying wheel, so they had to pay close attention to it.

Ye Zhongming threw level seven crystals in and started his first spin.

He could only eliminate two punishments. One was naturally the reward explosion. That reward was too terrifying; you would die if you got it. The second choice was the mental energy curse.

Apart from the elimination technique, Ye Zhongming was able to get rich because of the Glory Smith job. His mental energy supported that job.

Not only did he have a large amount of mental energy, it recovered quickly, too.

Cloud Peak was fully dressed in silver. Xia Bai's squad was full green. Each of the core members had at least one piece of blue equipment.

How did all this come about? It relied on his mental energy. If not, even if Ye Zhongming's Smith level was high and he could craft one a day, he would only be able to have one full silver squad.

Not to mention the huge amount of grey and white equipment that he made for the Posthumous people.

So, comparing the mental energy curse and the two extremes, he chose the former.

The remaining two punishments were to challenge the level eight lifeform and also twin extreme invasion.

The wheel spun on the wheel, and it didn't slow down. Ye Zhongming thought about it and told the others to retreat further. He silently activated his second life.

When he killed Zhang Dalong, he obtained a recipe- Alli Essence.

Ye Zhongming had already made and consumed the essence. The reason he was so strong had to do with the second life the potion had provided.

This second life had two states. The main body would obtain a 20-30% buff when it wasn't activated. The exact amount would depend on the essence vein. When activated, the main body would have one more life, which would block a lethal attack.

Of course, the cooldown was really long, at 500 days.

As he wasn't sure what he would meet, he activated the second life to be safe.

Anyway, if he didn't use it now, he would use it in the future.

The moment he activated the second life, the needle stopped and pointed at the two extreme invasion!

Damn!

He retreated as he didn't know what was going to happen. But moving around would definitely be the right idea.

But his thoughts were too simple.

Extreme cold covered him, which made him feel like his soul was frozen.

After evolving to five-star, people didn't really care about the temperature. Even in winter, evolved could run outside naked.

But now, Ye Zhongming was actually freezing. The leather armor was useless, and his mind was blank from the cold.

He used all his strength to go up against the bone-chilling cold.

But it was still useless.

Ye Zhongming recalled that people discussed how much cold and hot temperatures nine-star evolved could resist in his last life. They could confirm that someone had seen the nine-star evolved tank a thousand-degree attack.

Probably only a nine-star evolved could block the two extreme invasion.

Ye Zhongming felt like a year had passed before the cold disappeared. But before he could think, a high temperature struck him. It was as if he was thrown into magma; he was being melted.

The last bit of consciousness started to break apart, and in the next second, he knew nothing.

To the others, Ye Zhongming started to lean back after the wheel stopped. A white mist spurted from the wheel, which froze him. Then, a white flame hit the ice statue, which then caused the statue to explode.

Xia Bai screamed before charging forward.

The others were shocked. Did Ye Zhongming die just like that?

The impression he gave others was that he couldn't die. In the Secret Realm, even Flame Dove couldn't kill him. Outside Cloud Peak, the mutated lifeforms failed to kill him. In the wilderness, the Chain Prisoner didn't kill him. Now, two gas balls killed him?

Everyone charged with Xia Bai.

But they took two steps before the pieces of Ye Zhongming combined. Ye Zhongming reappeared once again.

"Damn, that was scary!"

Ye Zhongming's words brought the others back to their senses. They asked, and after he gave a simple explanation, they relaxed. Xia Bai and Park Xiuying's bodies were still shivering.

What a waste of the second life. Ye Zhongming calmed them down and knew that it was because of his bad luck. He hit the punishment after the first spin. But he knew that the toughest moments were gone. There were seven choices with three punishments. He could eliminate two of them, so there was one left. There was only a 20% chance of hitting it. He didn't believe he could be so unlucky to hit two punishments in a row.

Thus, he tossed another level seven crystal and used the Elimination technique.

But he cursed right away.

Chapter 967: What a scam

He could only eliminate one option on the second spin.

Ye Zhongming had the urge to shatter this wheel.

He had not seen such a scam.

Be it ordinary wheels, colorful wheels, even the demon gambling wheels, competition death wheel, ocean king wheel, etc. The Elimination Technique could work on all of them, and they followed the same rules.

But when it reached the One Step Wheel, he could only eliminate two options, he could only eliminate one now.

Won't he have to face two punishments again?

Ye Zhongming had used his second life. If another fatal danger appeared, he wouldn't die, but the price would be that the Earth Elf would disappear forever.

As compared to the Earth Elf, the prizes might be less valuable. Should he risk the Earth Elf for them?

He calmed himself down and thought about it. He could only eliminate one option, which was the reward explosion, as that punishment would definitely kill.

Of the remaining two, the level eight lifeform was still okay. With the people they had, they were prepared for it. But the mental energy curse...

Ye Zhongming didn't want anything to do with it. Now that the situation had changed and he could only eliminate one punishment, he had to consider if he could take the punishment.

Finally, he decided to take the risk.

If he gave up just like that, he would feel reluctant. He wasted the second life that took more than a year to refresh, and all he could do was run away?

Ye Zhongming told everyone to retreat, and he was about to begin the second spin.

Some people said that when you wished for luck, it wouldn't come. And when you didn't care, it would appear.

Ye Zhongming was prepared to get hit by the mental energy curse. He was betting on himself.

Of course, he knew that if he was unlucky and received another punishment, he would feel the curse was just a curse. It would absorb some of his mental energy but not fully make it disappear.

With his recovery speed, he was confident he could resist the curse.

The needle continued to spin and showed no signs of stopping. Ye Zhongming retreated a distance away and waited patiently.

After a few seconds, the needle stopped and pointed to...

Reward!

Ye Zhongming and the few who had been paying attention heaved a sigh of relief.

Spinning the wheel nearly caused everyone to get mental illnesses.

Fortunately, the outcome was a good one.

Four rewards. Seven-star potion, two purple defensive equipment, a shining scroll... And one which was what they got this time- a golden book.

Ye Zhongming took the book but didn't open it. He tried to eliminate more options, but the notification he got was... Unable to use the Elimination technique!

Ye Zhongming wanted to curse again.

The One Step Wheel was just going against him.

He couldn't eliminate any of the six options, three rewards and three punishments. How could he even spin? What if he got the reward explosion?

Ye Zhongming looked at the golden book. If he opened it, it would mean that the reward would belong to him. If he really got the reward explosion, he would blow up along with the reward. So, should he open it?

When Ye Zhongming was stunned, someone came to find him and told him about what had happened to Red Hair.

Ye Zhongming kept the wheel and the book and decided to wait for the future.

He returned to Cloud Peak and saw that Red Hair and her subordinates were in a standoff against Cloud Peak. They didn't fight because Red Hair didn't attack. She was silent. The black lines on her face didn't disappear. Their separate genes affected her hair and spikes and showed each other's unique points.

"What happened?"

Ye Zhongming walked beside Liu Zhenghong and asked the only person who could give her an answer.

"I am unsure what happened, but it should be her gene." She shook her head, "You mentioned that Red Hair should have died and was buried somewhere. But then she suddenly appeared and had this spike ability. Her evolution level also increased."

No one knew how Red Hair survived. Even Red Hair herself didn't know what happened during the period that she was unconscious.

Her revival became a mystery. Her evolution and even how she had mental energy and spikes were things that she had no idea how they came about.

"This time, that level eight lifeform's mental energy attack was very special, but it hit Red Hair. It should have invaded her genes and caused her to lose control of her abilities. It even caused her to lose control of her mind."

Liu Zhenghong looked at Red Hair and paused. "Although she is calm, look at her face. The black lines are still there. I think she is battling the genes or souls in her body. No one knows what will eventually happen."

"What if she loses." Ye Zhongming had a solemn expression.

"She would totally lose control and become a mutated lifeform that only wants blood."

"What can I do?"

Liu Zhenghong frowned and was unsure, "You said that when you buried her, you placed a soul gem into her body. Maybe you can find some soul gems for her to see if it works."

"Okay, I will get some." Ye Zhongming nodded. He then left Xia Bai, Hong Xiang, and Ling Kun here.

"If she gets out of control before I return, then... Kill her."

Ye Zhongming left immediately and headed to Blue Secret Realm. He sat in the Exquisite Floating Ball and flew towards Undead Hill.

This was the place with the most soul gems.

The imperial city wasn't too near that place, and the Saint Light Hall army was between them. Ye Zhongming didn't want to cause trouble, so he made a huge round to avoid them. To hide his tracks, he even flew at a height that their airforce couldn't reach. As a result, he bumped into many strong lifeforms and was nearly shot down.

Fortunately, its speed and seclusion were decent, and he was able to get free.

Ye Zhongming used his fastest speed to kill thousands of undead lifeforms. He didn't care about their level and returned with the soul gems. He smashed through the defenses of Saint Light Hall's airforce to get back, and then he handed the soul gems to Liu Zhenghong.

Chapter 968: Huge mutation

"Still calm?"

Ye Zhongming hurried back. He saw that the situation was still the same, so he was more at ease.

He was afraid that he would return to see Red Hair dead and Cloud Peak suffering massive injuries.

Although the situation didn't get better, at least it didn't get worse.

"She did go berserk a few times, but she resisted it. The gap between episodes is getting shorter; I think she can't hold on for much longer."

Liu Zhenghong dealt with the soul pearls. She used equipment that she and Le Dayuan developed together. It used the crystal weapon's theory to create a device that helped extract energy.

More accurately, it was an injector. But instead of injecting liquid, you injected energy.

Red Hair couldn't absorb energy from the soul pearl herself, so they could only use this method to help her.

Maybe because she sensed Ye Zhongming's arrival, Red Hair's eyes looked towards this direction before she closed them again.

Ye Zhongming tried to communicate with her through their minds, but like before, there was a reaction but no clear message.

Very quickly, the thousands of soul pearls were extracted into four devices. Liu Zhenghong passed them to Ye Zhongming.

Ye Zhongming looked at the Brainchild that was hiding behind the zombie horde, "Get these things to move aside."

Although Red Hair controlled the Brain Child, it was still a brain bug and had its own way of thinking. The situation put him in a spot. Although the other zombies protected Red Hair through instinct but, they knew that it wasn't Red Hair's intention.

But if Red Hair lost control, they would be on opposing sides to Cloud Peak. If she knew that it let Ye Zhongming in, then...

“Do you believe that I will kill you now?”

Ye Zhongming frowned, and the Brain Child became cowardly immediately. It made a few sounds to the zombies before it. Some of them were level six, and many were level five. The rest were level four on average. They hesitated before opening up a path.

Ye Zhongming walked over as if these fellows didn't exist.

He walked before Red Hair and saw the trembling veins. Ye Zhongming slowly pulled Red Hair's arm over while paying attention to her reaction. He then injected the first device into her.

Then the second, then the third.

“There is an effect!”

As the energy was injected, the black lines started to retreat. The red threads on the vines and the leaves on her hair started to disappear or wither. Everything was proceeding in a good direction.

Ye Zhongming continued to inject the final bit of energy.

Those black lines continued to retreat.

Red Hair had an important position in Cloud Peak's system. After the rebuild, Ye Zhongming treated the zombies she controlled as a battle squad. That showed how well he treated her.

Although she couldn't communicate with Ye Zhongming now, he still sent her a message before moving backward.

But he took a step and then stopped. He turned around and saw that Red Hair had opened her eyes. It was red, and she was staring at him. The vines around her body had floated up and were dancing above Ye Zhongming's head.

The battle squads raised their guns and weapons. If those vines attacked him, they would shoot her.

Ye Zhongming raised his hand to tell them not to move. He looked at her and started to retreat.

He could receive a message from her. Although it was short, but it was a message.

She told him to retreat.

Since that was the case, he chose to trust her.

Under his orders, Cloud Peak started to retreat slowly and left Red Hair with an empty space.

“She...”

Liu Zhenghong wanted to ask something, but Red Hair made a move.

Those vines went stiff and stabbed the heads of the zombie horde that were back facing her. Her hair grew longer and thrust at her subordinates, who were caught off guard.

One could hear many piercing sounds. Those zombies didn't know what was going on when their heads were pierced.

The next moment, Red Hair raised them into the air, and they all hung there.

The only exception was Brain Child. When Ye Zhongming retreated, it followed him. It was carefully looking at its boss in shock.

It was not the only thing in shock; everyone who witnessed what was happening was shocked.

The zombies floated in the air, and their bodies quickly dried up. The color of the crystals on their head started to change.

From red to blue, to green, black, white, grey...

Until, they shattered.

“Their levels are retreating!”

“Reverse evolution?”

“They became zombies!”

Even if Cloud Peak was disciplined, some people couldn’t help but exclaim.

It was too weird and terrifying.

Those zombies became skeletons. But the special features didn’t disappear. They still had sharp fingernails and giant bodies; some had spikes...

Their eyes glowed with various colors. Some bone weapons were excreted from their bodies. Their bones became thicker and gave off a metallic glow. Very quickly, their entire bone structure turned into that color.

On the other side, the vines started to wither and then break free from Red Hair’s body. The Red Hair that was covered in leaves began to retract and return to normal.

The skeleton structures didn’t scatter, and they all stood up instead. They pulled out the spikes in their heads and tossed them aside.

Each of them used their empty ‘flame’ eyes to look at the humans with killing intent.

Red Hair sat up and slowly opened her eyes. The red blood had disappeared and was replaced with a thick black.

There was no sinister intentions, just calmness.

As she stood up, those skeletons turned and knelt before her. Although they didn’t make a sound, but everyone could sense their loyalty.

They also used their actions to prove that.

After kneeling, they pulled out bones from their own bodies!

Chapter 969: Pulling a bone for her

It was silent, and everyone was stunned. They didn’t understand why this happened.

Since the wheel descended from the sky, there were evolution potions, various equipment, zombies, monsters, and battle beasts. Everyone felt like they had seen enough weird things in their life.

But now, they were still shocked by this scene. Even Ye Zhongming, who had lived a previous life, was no exception.

He hadn’t even heard of such changes before.

Red Hair was a puppet he created following the wheel's recipe. It died but somehow came back alive, with mental energy and vines. Moreover, it followed the mutated lifeform's evolution level.

Ye Zhongming was confused about what had happened to Red Hair in the past, and he didn't know what type of lifeform she was.

He was even more lost today. What was the lifeform he had created>

The thousands of skeletons each pulled out a bone and respectfully placed them in front of Red Hair. They then returned to their positions and knelt there with their heads lowered.

Red Hair stood quietly. She didn't do anything, but the bones started to float around her height. They began to change, combine, piece together...

The metal bones were soft like crystal dough. When their shape didn't fit, they would change. They looked really soft, as if the bones were originally one piece and had just scattered onto the bodies of the different skeletons.

Very quickly, everyone saw what those bones were going to turn into.

That was... A chair.

But it wasn't an ordinary chair. It looked really exaggerated.

Four thick legs floated in the sky. They were curved and elegant as you looked from bottom up. At around half a meter in height, they supported a squarish seat. Bones of different thicknesses intersected there and rested on the back support. It formed two exquisite but complicated faces: one for sitting and the backrest, which was at a certain angle. But right in the middle, where you could also rest, was another arc.

The two handles were formed from two skeleton heads, and were still exquisite. It didn't terrify anyone. On the contrary, it looked like a top piece of art.

If these looked slightly exaggerated, then the backrest had three sharp, thick bones with spikes that wrapped the backrest from the back. It looked like there were three bone circles around it. The chair was huge, and the bones didn't close up. The moment you sat down, it would look like you were surrounded and protected by the three bones.

On the high backrest was a dragon bone head. Its mouth was slightly open as if it was roaring towards the world. The dragon horns faced the sky, and under the sunlight, they gave off a cold glow.

The people behind the chair could see that there was a dragon tail under the backrest. With the four legs, it, the backrest, bone circles, and dragon head all formed a complete bone dragon!

When the chair's structure stabilized, a fierce aura spread. It slowly landed towards Red Hair. An invisible energy wave spread, causing Cloud Peak's warriors to retreat. Their faces were filled with shock.

Although the energy wave didn't hurt their bodies, they felt intense pain. This wave actually hit their mental energy.

Red Hair slowly sat on the dragon chair.

When she leaned on the backrest and placed her hands on the skeleton heads, the dragon head gave out a loud roar. It was as if the metal bones came to life as water spun from the bottom of the chair. It then spurted from the dragon's mouth and scattered towards the skeleton warriors.

The golden rain landed on each skeleton, and none of them went to waste. Their bodies gave off a copper glow, which increased their aura.

After spitting the metal rain, everything quietened down. Only Red Hair sat there like a queen, looking down on everything.

People who saw those scenes heaved a sigh of relief. The remnants of the mental energy wave had dissipated, and Cloud Peak warriors started to recover.

But!

When everyone thought it was over, the skeleton warriors raised their heads. Balls of various colored light flew from their eyes towards Red Hair and quickly formed a colorful ball.

"This, what is this?"

Shocked words spread from all around. What happened today exceeded what many people knew.

The ball didn't cause as much commotion as the formation of the chair, but the changes were still very intense.

The balls of light were merging. Those of the same color merged together. Very quickly, a ball of light formed of black, white, green, blue, red, and purple appeared.

After which, the ball of light started to stretch and only stopped at around four to five meters.

Red Hair reached out, and one end landed in her hands. She flicked, and a whip of six colors appeared in her hands.

Red Hair sat on that exaggerated dragon chair and held a six-colored light whip. Along with her red hair and devilish state, these scenes would last in Cloud Peak warriors' minds for a long time to come.

The shock in their hearts would also be spread to others.

"Zhongming, she, this..."

Liu Zhenghong was rarely nervous. Be it when Ye Zhongming saw her when she faced the demon monster or when the millions of mutated lifeforms were attacking Cloud Peak, she was always very calm.

But now, she was really emotional. She tried to use her knowledge to explain everything, but couldn't find an answer.

Ye Zhongming didn't say anything and just nodded towards Liu Zhenghong. She then walked slowly at Red Hair.

Cloud Peak warriors got nervous. Especially when Ye Zhongming got close, and those skeleton warriors turned around. They aimed their various bone weapons at him.

But he didn't stop. He just looked into Red Hair's eyes.

Everyone looked on nervously as a battle might begin at any moment.

Chapter 970: Have never betrayed

Red Hair was already very strong in the past. When they attacked God Hall, she killed a level eight lifeform herself. Although it was a weak product, it was still a level eight lifeform. Apart from Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai, the others would only barely be able to survive.

Such a Red Hair had gone through an unknown mutation, making her evidently stronger. No one was sure that Ye Zhongming was her match at this time.

She was his puppet in the past, but that was in the past. Once she got stronger than him, that relationship might become ineffective.

The higher the level of the lifeform, the more autonomous it got. No one hoped to be restrained or controlled by others.

If Red Hair evolved to that level, there was a high chance that she would break free from Ye Zhongming.

The crystal cannons and giant crossbow turned over to this place in case any accident occurred.

Ye Zhongming walked firmly and those skeletons got more annoyed. These people weren't ordinary bone structures but bones from high-level lifeforms. Moreover, with the soul pearl's energy, even if they hadn't fought, their dangerous aura told everyone that they weren't to be trifled with.

When Ye Zhongming walked among the skeletons, the battle that everyone expected didn't explode. Everyone relaxed.

Ye Zhongming came before Red Hair and stopped a few meters away. He purposely stopped there. At this spot, he could be on the same level as her. If he were further away, it would look like she was looking down on him. If he were close, he would be looking down on her.

No matter which it was, it could cause a conflict.

Right, their connection hadn't recovered. It even returned to the past before Red Hair came back alive, where the connection was intermittent.

He was not sure what was going to happen.

The reason why he came here alone was to show his attitude. He was showing everyone and Red Hair that this is Cloud Peak. No matter who it was, they couldn't misbehave here.

Red Hair was strong, but was Ye Zhongming afraid of her? Of course not. Even if Red Hair became stronger, Ye Zhongming still didn't fear her.

He just didn't want a conflict, as it was pointless.

Even if Red Hair was strong and wanted to break away from him, he didn't want them to become enemies.

Moreover, Ye Zhongming was also curious about the chair and the light whip.

As a Smith, he had the urge to study this equipment that exceeded his understanding.

Red Hair's whip floated towards Ye Zhongming. This caused the Cloud Peak warriors, who had just relaxed, to become nervous again. They watched as it got close until it wrapped around him.

If not for Ye Zhongming telling them not to move, Cloud Peak would have attacked.

Ye Zhongming looked at the whip that was around him. He felt no weight at all. There was no restriction, and it felt like water.

He didn't move as he felt no animosity from Red Hair.

At this moment, even the skeletons didn't have any killing energy. They became very well behaved, and their animosity towards him was gone.

The whip got tighter and wrapped his body towards Red Hair. But he floated very slowly and was placed slowly before the chair.

Everyone watched nervously as Red Hair suddenly smiled.

At that moment, everyone relaxed.

Everyone could sense her kindness. As long as one wasn't blind, one could see how close she was to Ye Zhongming.

At this distance, with Ye Zhongming's evolution level and strength, he could instantly kill anyone at the same level. Even those of a higher level had close to no chance of dodging.

"Why don't you trust me? I have never betrayed you."

Red Hair said clearly. She wasn't as nervous and shy as before, and her words were very smooth.

Ye Zhongming was up close and realized that Red Hair's skin was much smoother. Even a real female wouldn't have as smooth skin as her.

Without those black eyes and the purple crystal on her forehead, she would be no different from a human.

Her words touched Ye Zhongming. Right, with that sad past where she was made into a puppet, she still stayed by his side.

Ye Zhongming smiled and touched her head, "It is my fault. How should I compensate you?"

Her smile grew. The mental energy connection with him returned to normal, and it was clearer than before.

"I am hungry; bring me to eat something."

"Okay!"

"Then let's go!"

Red Hair pulled Ye Zhongming's hand and dragged him to the giant bone chair to sit beside her. She tossed the whip, and it turned into a six-colored wing. The wing landed on the chair and flapped, making the chair fly.

Thousands of skeleton warriors and the brain child followed.

Red Hair brought Ye Zhongming to fly around with the bone chair. He received her message and knew where she was going. He used the Secret Realm key, and the two of them led a bunch of skeleton warriors through the gate and into the Secret Realm.

Leaving the Cloud Peak members looking at each other.

.....

Within the Secret Realm, Posthumous people Imperial City. When Ye Zhongming and Red Hair led the skeleton army over, this team was too weird. The few kings rushed over and relaxed after Ye Zhongming explained. But they continued to follow and only stopped when the team left.

Red Hair's goal was Undead Spirit Hill.

"That place isn't easy to get to."

Ye Zhongming touched the ice-cold chair and said towards Red Hair.

"I can sense Cloud Peak aura here."

Ye Zhongming nodded and then smiled.

"Since that is the case, then let's begin the plan in advance."