

Apocalypse 991

Chapter 991: Breaking

“Despicable!”

The Saintess’s expression changed, and she scolded Ye Zhongming again.

She noticed that she was starting to faint, and her body felt powerless.

It was her battle beast, so she could also sense what was happening to Yangos. Its body condition was dropping, and its power was becoming unstable. He couldn’t control Flame Hell anymore.

“What is that?”

Hong Xiang knew what the problem was. He looked at the fresh flowers and was shocked.

These flowers could affect two level eight lifeforms.

The answer was yes.

The flowers were Sailor’s Beautiful Flower Garden.

The special equipment that the resistance zone had used to deal with him, which Ji Ruiguang then abandoned, became Ye Zhongming’s spoils of war.

Ye Zhongming didn’t use it in the previous fights because it had restrictions and was easily broken. He also nurtured it as it didn’t reach his desired effect.

This time, he had nurtured it to a decent level.

Cloud Peak had many plants that ate mutated lifeform flesh, like the Cannibal Flowers and the Meditation Bone Demon Platform.

To feed them, Cloud Peak had a permanent mission in Puxing Town to purchase mutated lifeform corpses.

Although the price was cheap, these were things that people would just toss aside, so it was free money for them.

When this mission was pushed out, the surrounding factions loved it. They sent the corpses to Cloud Peak to trade for demon crystals. Some factions saw the opportunity and purchased various corpses from hunting grounds before selling them to Cloud Peak and earning the difference.

Near Ying City, one couldn’t see any corpses or broken body parts. They were all collected and taken away.

In a short time, this mission changed and formed a perfect interest chain.

After the corpses were sent to Cloud Peak, they fed these three things. The remaining few would be fed to the various beasts.

With enough food, the Meditation Bone Demon Platform was close to its next reproduction cycle. The Cannibal Flowers had grown, too. The Sailor’s Flower Garden also increased by a level.

It was much better than before. Apart from the weakness ability, there was a giddy state whose effect would increase as it leveled up.

Sailor's Beautiful Flower Garden had a small effect on level eight lifeforms previously.

When one was weak, one couldn't be at full strength. The Flame Hell skill was broken instantly.

When the red clouds disappeared, the flame barrier did, too. The Saintess and Yangos had to face the fact that they were in a weak state.

It was still okay; if they were in a perfect state, their resistance would be stronger than it is now. But Yangos was hit by the weapons on the walls, and the Saintess was hit by the four of them.

Although Ling Kun was still confused, he wouldn't miss this chance. He pushed and Yangos fell back. He flapped his wings to maintain his balance, exposing the Saintess.

Ling Kun kicked, and the Saintess could only block with her Glory Staff.

The small body flew, and the Saintess, still suffering from Rising Moon's pressure, was in a bad state.

The protector moved as he saw a chance to kill.

Without the flame barrier blocking, the situation around became clear. Although Posthumous people and Cloud Hooves were fighting, Saint Light Hall's numbers advantage was still clear. They had crossed the battlefield and were very close.

At the same time, many Posthumous warriors charged out of the city and headed over. The Imperial City people were afraid that the battle would drag on and they would be surrounded. If that happened, they wouldn't be surrounding the Saintess but would be surrounded instead.

"Protect the Saintess!"

The three heads had already moved near the battlefield. They saw that the Saintess was in danger, and they turned into three streaks of light as they rushed over.

"Retreat!" Ye Zhongming stood on the spot and retracted the flower garden. He shouted toward the two kings.

The situation wasn't good.

They were able to sneak attack them as the time was right. The Saint Light Hall warriors had consumed a lot of stamina. If they fought, then they would benefit. They also had a reason to attack the Saintess and Yangos as they were alone.

Now, the three heads led the army. The reason why they didn't surround them was because their focus was on the Saintess. If the situation stabilized, the 40 thousand Posthumous people and Cloud Peak warriors wouldn't be able to return.

Moreover, many Posthumous warriors were out of the city. If they were stopped here, it would be a decisive fight, and the outcome of the war would be decided today.

Ye Zhongming didn't think that the Posthumous people could defeat Saint Light Hall in a fight in the wilderness.

Apart from that, in terms of experts, they had the three heads, Yangos, who still had half its strength. Hong Xiang couldn't fight anymore, and Ling Kun's peak was over. The protector and Ye

Zhongming were injured. They were fighting three against four, and there was a 90% chance they would lose.

No matter how you looked at it, this was the best chance to retreat.

Ye Zhongming was not the only rational one. Many Posthumous people realized the problem and started to retreat. Ling Kun and the protector launched fake attacks on the Saintess before retreating with the cavaliers.

The three heads checked on the Saintess, whose face was white as ash, and relaxed when they saw that they weren't lethal injuries. When they looked at the battlefield, they saw that the Posthumous people were within range of those weapons, and they were filled with hatred.

When Ye Zhongming and the few kings entered the imperial city, the Saintess was lifted onto a luxurious beast cart. Both sides stared at each other, and killing intent surged.

Everyone knew that it wasn't over yet.

Chapter 992: Space Stack Gate

Ye Zhongming looked at the casualty report and couldn't get happy.

Cloud Peak and the Posthumous people attacked first. They did gain some advantages. Just from the casualty report, you could tell that Saint Light Hall suffered more losses than them.

But this difference was just a small win and didn't affect the big picture.

Posthumous people were still backward, and Saint Light Hall was still more developed.

After this fight, Ye Zhongming realized his preparation was mainly targeted at that level nine Saint Father. He had neglected, or rather, he didn't prepare much for the other Saint Light Hall experts.

If the Saintess, Yangos, and the three heads charged at the wall, the Posthumous people might not be able to defend against five level eight experts.

This didn't consider whether they had other level eight excerpts. If they had something like the protector or another level eight battle beast, then the defenses on the walls might not be enough.

How?

This problem started to bother the few kings and him.

They realized that they lacked high-end combat strength. They underestimated the Saintess in the past. This woman wasn't easy to deal with, and one person wasn't enough.

"When will they attack the city?"

Ye Zhongming touched his chin and asked the few kings and core Cloud Peak members who were eating together.

"Based on today's situation, they would probably test that ranged attack tomorrow. If there is no effect, they wouldn't rush to attack the city. They would prepare their backend stuff before launching a final attack."

Ling Kun drank some porridge. He felt like this food from Earth was delicious.

“I agree with King Ling Kun, but they will continue to disturb us. They will try to understand what that barrier is. So, our air forces and air defenses will be busy.”

Xia Lei ate elegantly. She held her chopsticks and analyzed.

The barrier shocked Saint Light Hall, and they will try to understand it. They might launch probing attacks, as Xia Lei said.

They might even use their siege weapons to test. Even if there was no outcome, they could consume the arrows on the walls.

“If it is a final attack, it would be five days later. After all, crafting and assembling siege weapons, resting the troops, perfectly the plan, all of that would use time.”

Neal said, “Especially after we taught them a lesson. With their style, they would be careful.”

Ye Zhongming agreed with them. He felt like, after this clash, Saint Light Hall wouldn't be so arrogant.

“What idea do you have?” Mo Ye knew that Ye Zhongming wouldn't ask that for no reason.

“I think we can use this space to do something.” Ye Zhongming tapped the table and was in deep thought.

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The air pollution in the apocalypse disappeared, but the weather on Earth didn't change.

It was warm and humid. The wind, which had sand specks in it, made Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai's team very uncomfortable.

They walked down the metal platform and looked at the sandy area.

To increase the defense of the Imperial City and protect his future material and crystal base, he thought for a night and decided to open the...Space Stack Gate!

When he was fighting for the Ocean King Crown, Shiekha Saeed gave him this golden teleportation gate.

Without a clear goal, he thought about the Star Sand.

The saint water in the pool had a healing effect. Park Xiuying had a large-scale healing skill. But as compared to this Star Sand, this was something that could grow meat from bones. As long as you still had a breath, be it external or internal injuries, it could keep you alive. You could then rely on the evolved's strong body to heal.

This sand was more useful when the battles got more intense.

After getting fertile soil, Ye Zhongming's understanding of country products changed. In the past, he felt they were rare and could only be measured in grams. Actually, if you had the elemental elf... There were quite a lot of them.

With the Earth Elf as an example, it would sleep when it was full and would then produce it. It would continue to eat and then sleep. Through this process, you would get fertile soil. Although the amount couldn't keep up with his needs, it wasn't too rare.

So he felt like since Shiekha Saeed could get the Star Sand, he might have obtained the Star Sand Elf's recognition.

He would then use some fertile sand and other equipment to trade for some Star Sand. This could increase their chance of defending the city. Ye Zhongming felt like he could solo the Saintess if he had Star Sand.

Ye Zhongming thought he would have a few days,, so he refreshed the barrier before returning to Earth. He felt it would be a simple meeting to trade for the sand and return. But things seemed a little weird.

If Shiekha Saeed's faction were here, they would protect the gate and wait for him. Even if they didn't wait for him, this thing could be used as a teleportation device to other areas.

But the surroundings were barren. There was only sand.

If Shiekha Saeed died, then why would the gate be here? It was also in an activated state.

The Western Asians weren't reliable.

Ye Zhongming muttered. He told people to connect the energy device to this teleportation equipment to ensure that the gate was running. He ordered them to set up camp before sending people to set up sentries.

He thought about it and sent Xiao min back to Cloud Peak to call Young Master Yun's squad over, just in case.

After two hours, the scouts he sent out returned with news. They found a situation in the southwest direction.

Chapter 993: Companion Crystal

The apocalypse just referred to lifeforms; the mountains and oceans still looked the same.

Yellow and green were a common topic on this land that was given life by the Tigris River and Euphrates River.

Yellow was the color of the sand, which perfectly described the Empty Quarter.

Green represents the plants that could still survive on this land.

But everything seemed too plain.

This desert was one of the ten biggest deserts in the world. This seemed ordinary, but Ye Zhongming still felt uneasy. It was as if something bad was going to happen.

Ye Zhongming trusted his intuition. At his evolution level, with his Soul Refining Technique, his intuition was often the signal his senses gave him.

But he didn't know where that uneasiness pointed to.

Ye Zhongming lay in the warm sand and looked at the hill below. He saw hundreds of statues.

Everyone was evolved and their eyes were very good. After observing, they noticed that they were zombies. But for some reason, they were covered in sand armor and didn't move.

"Are they dead?"

Daizhi was another of Xia Bai's captains; her status was similar to Xiao Min's, and she was a five-star evolved. Her beast was a white jade cordyceps that was both an animal and a plant. At the baby stage, it had both healing and buff passive abilities. It was one of the better beasts they got from Sharp Peak Mountain.

Moreover, she was determined, good at dealing with matters, and brave, all of which helped her climb to her current position. She was among the people who were in line to become six-star evolved.

"Not dead."

Ye Zhongming sensed the energy from these fellows. They weren't dead.

But why were they standing there?

"They are alive? Then why are they faking?"

Daizhi muttered and was tempted to attack.

These were zombies outside of your country. Cloud Peak warriors were all tempted to fight them.

But Ye Zhongming wasn't very interested. After all, he came here to get Star Sand and not to kill zombies. The crystals here couldn't even compare to a pinch of those he could get in Blue Secret Realm.

Cloud Peak warriors, and he couldn't spend too long here, and it was better if they returned sooner. After all, the situation in Blue Secret Realm might change at any time.

But that wasn't the thought of the zombies. Those fellows noticed Ye Zhongming and his group. They raised their heads, and hundreds of them dashed over.

They were so quick.

As they were covered in yellow sand armor, you couldn't see the crystals and couldn't tell their levels. But their speed shocked Ye Zhongming.

Zombies with such a speed wouldn't have low levels.

They might be level five or even level six!

So many level-five zombies?

One must know that ordinary zombies were slightly stronger than evolved of the same level but were weaker than elite evolved. Elite evolved would then be weaker than elite zombies.

Although this rule was not absolute, that was often the case.

Xia Bai's squad might all seem like elite evolved, but these hundreds of zombies were all elites. The gap in numbers wasn't much. Even if they won such a battle, they usually had to pay a huge price. This wasn't what Ye Zhongming wanted.

It was obvious that they had to fight this battle. Xia Bai's squad wasn't as quick as these zombies, especially in the desert.

Since they were going to fight, Ye Zhongming was decisive and told his squad to get a good location to launch their ranged attacks.

Xia Bai's squad was his personal guard, so their equipment was the strongest. Their first round of shots gained a great effect, and dozens of zombies were killed.

But the zombies behind didn't stop. They cleared the distance and charged onto the hill.

Both sides clashed.

Ye Zhongming was the first to attack with his blade. He used his various skills. The Earth Elf also controlled the region around him to provide the other warriors with a great fighting environment.

The feeling that things were not going according to plan frustrated him. His killing intent was stronger. In just a few seconds, many zombies fell around him.

At the same time, he had a new analysis of the situation.

The zombies had high defense. With his killing strength, he found it tough to kill them. Moreover, they had weird abilities... Sand attacks.

Some zombies threw sand, and some created domains like sandstorm. Some formed weapons with sand.

But they shouldn't be level five. At least, most of them hadn't reached level five. Even if they had many abilities, their overall strength hadn't reached level five and was around level four.

Since they weren't that strong, the battle was much simpler, and it ended in just 20 minutes. A few dozen people from Cloud Peak's side were injured. Five of them were severely injured, but they weren't fatal injuries. If Park Xiuying healed them, they just needed a few days of rest.

Dead zombies were the best. Xia Bai's subordinates sliced through the layer of sand to reveal what they really looked like.

Dry, yellow, and without skin—these were the most obvious features. Their skin was that yellow sand armor.

They had demon crystals, but the weird thing was that there was a crystal beside them. It looked like a companion creature; if you didn't pay attention, you might think there were two demon crystals.

He sliced the crystal and took a close look. They were smaller than ordinary crystals and weren't as shiny. There were even some sand-like impurities in them, which gave them a dark yellow color.

What was this?

Even with Ye Zhongming's two lives, he hadn't seen this before.

Why did he face such a weird thing immediately?

He told them to collect the crystals for future studies.

"Boss, there is a wheel there!"

The guard raised the binoculars and informed Ye Zhongming.

Chapter 994: Fake Wheel

The wheel was often something that people in the apocalypse looked forward to and chased.

Although Cloud Peak had seen many, they had never seen a foreign wheel.

Also, the sentry had seen many things. Since he mentioned “seems like”, it meant that the situation was a little off.

Ye Zhongming took over the binoculars and saw a wheel-shaped thing in the desert. The reason why the sentry wasn't sure was because it was too long.

It was too big.

Of course, it was smaller than the precise trading wheel but bigger than ordinary wheels.

Special wheel?

Ye Zhongming's depressed emotions from not finding Shiekha Saeed were swept away.

A special wheel was a dream.

Ye Zhongming thought about what he had obtained from special wheels, and one could understand his emotions.

Crystal energy gun, explosive mechanic, Ocean King Wheel, job scroll, Earth Elf... Etc.

If he could find a special wheel here, it could compensate for the regret of not getting Star Sand.

“Let's take a look.”

Ye Zhongming arrived before the wheel but was stunned when he saw it.

The wheel didn't look special.

It should be a level five wheel. The ten rewards were ordinary. There were evolution potions and various equipment.

From that point, one couldn't see anything special about it.

What was going on?

Ye Zhongming looked around it and didn't see anything unusual. Were wheels here bigger than those of China?

He quickly ignored that weird thought. This wheel was bigger, so it was definitely a special wheel. It was just that he hadn't found a way to use it.

He decided to spin it.

You just had to use it to know whether it was a special wheel.

Ye Zhongming placed level five crystals into the hole to spin. But as he was just testing it out, he didn't use the elimination technique.

The needle quickly stopped on a reward. It was an equipment that supported activation equipment, and it was technology from the wheel.

But something abnormal happened.

The thing should have appeared in the box, but now, the wheel didn't react.

It lagged? This was his first thought. But he denied it; this wasn't online, so why would there be lag? Did it spoil? That was even more impossible as he had never heard of a wheel spoiling.

What was going on?

Ye Zhongming calmed himself down. He observed and saw that out of the ten rewards, the one that he got disappeared.

This... That equipment was a special reward?

It didn't look like it. Even if it was a special reward, then where did the item go?

Ye Zhongming stared at the wheel and tossed more level five crystals in to spin it again. This time, he used the Elimination Technique.

The difference was it failed.

His ability was only useless on the One Step Board, but it wasn't totally useless. But here, it disappeared.

The spinning began. Like the first time, the item he spun didn't appear.

This was weird.

Ye Zhongming spun it the third time, and the outcome was the same. There was no reward, and the thing disappeared.

"Is this what is special?"

Xia Bai looked at the situation while making her guess.

Since this might be a special wheel, then wouldn't what was happening be normal? The rewards were gone, but would they appear in another way, or have they not appeared yet?

Ye Zhongming felt it made sense. Since he wanted to understand it, he went all out. It was just 100 level-five crystals. He could afford to waste them.

Thus, Ye Zhongming continued to spin. The rewards disappeared one after another until nothing was left. But these rewards still didn't appear.

Ye Zhongming was shocked. This was the first time he had faced such a weird thing.

Right when he was a little helpless, his body flashed to the side.

A two-meter-long spike stabbed through the sand into the air.

From the air-piercing sound, you knew how fast it was.

The sand started flipping around the wheel like something was about to drill out.

As expected, a seven-meter tall, ten-meter-long giant scorpion appeared seconds later. The spike that sneak attacked Ye Zhongming was actually its tail.

Slightly further from the team, two giant cacti appeared from the sand, and their bodies were covered in sharp yellow spikes.

A skeleton warrior holding a blade in one hand and a shield in another appeared.

In front of the team, more lifeforms appeared. Zombies climbed out. On a rough count, there were four digits, around two thousand of them.

They were surrounded?

“Below!”

Xia Bai shouted. When she shouted, everything realized that something was wrong. Ye Zhongming led everyone to dodge. In the next second, a 20-meter-long centipede jumped out.

They all had desert in their names because their bodies were covered in sand armor, like those zombies before.

“Ten, ten places!”

Some detailed warriors realized that the desert lifeforms appeared in ten areas.

This made everyone think about the wheel. Weren't there ten rewards? Was it connected?

Ye Zhongming thought about it before slicing the wheel.

It wouldn't be damaged or moved if it was a real wheel.

But when he hit it, the wheel was split into two.

“Fake wheel!”

Ye Zhongming realized that he was tricked.

The fake wheel was destroyed, and it was as if he had hit a beehive. Those mutated lifeforms attacked.

Chapter 995: Same type monster

They had faced a sneak attack, so their formation wasn't kept well. As these mutated lifeforms were quick, they were forced to battle enemies closest to them.

Battles often needed people to work with one another. By better-utilizing resources, you could increase your combat strength. This was why when two sides with similar numbers and equipment quality fought, the army would be stronger than the other.

After witnessing the resistance zone and Glory Army's forces, Cloud Peak worked hard to develop in this direction. Xia Bai's battle squad was the most elite squad, and their coordination was already very good, so naturally, they were one of the stronger ones.

However, they were forced to fight for themselves in the current situation, and this affected their combat strength.

Ye Zhongming took a look and knew there wasn't much he could do. He could only select that slightly stronger mutated scorpion as his opponent.

Xia Bai faced the slightly weaker Desert Centipede.

The desert scorpion was much tougher to deal with than those zombies. This was not only because of its huge body, which was covered in thick sand armor, but also because of its many attack styles.

It had two thick, sharp pincers and a long tail that increased its range. Its agile mobility also created a chance for it to attack.

Ye Zhongming fought it several times and found it problematic. His skills smashed onto its body, causing sand to splash, but he couldn't hurt it.

But it was only slightly problematic. Ye Zhongming was experienced in dealing with lifeforms with strong defense. He started to aim at the joints where the sand armor wasn't as thick.

On the other side, Xia Bai's battle against the centipede intensified.

Someone like Xia Bai would execute it firmly when she decided on something.

Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai knew that as the strongest on their side, they had to end their fight quickly to reduce the losses of their subordinates. With such a thought, her desire to risk her life began.

The green scythe sliced toward the mutated centipede. She ignored its attacks and even took off her defensive equipment.

To others, this method was unbelievable. Although the mutated centipede was hard to deal with, it spat out a poison mist, its joints were very sharp, and it swung its giant body; that centipede wasn't level seven. If Xia Bai had some time, she would definitely be able to kill this fellow.

But Xia Bai avoided the mist and charged at the sharp joints. She couldn't block it, and that left many wounds on her body, covering her in blood.

Due to her passive, the scythe became stronger as she got more injured. When her stomach was pierced, the scythe could easily slice its body.

At this level, the mutated lifeform would only get sliced into pieces.

Xia Bai was the first to end her battle, even quicker than Ye Zhongming.

On the warriors' side, they were still okay when fighting the zombies. Although they couldn't kill all the zombies, they were on the same level. Those that were facing the two cacti weren't in such a good state. Their bodies were covered in spikes so no one could get close. Moreover, it fired those spikes, and they were poisonous. In a short while, dozens of warriors were hit; two were slightly more serious. The others backed out because they were poisoned.

When Xia Bai rushed over, the mutated cacti felt threatened, and all its spikes exploded, turning into an arrow rain.

This was an AOE attack that covered the entire battlefield. All the Cloud Peak warriors were hit with many spikes. Many were injured because of this sudden attack, and the first deaths started to appear. A few warriors didn't pay attention, and their backs were facing the spike. They were unlucky, and they pierced their necks, killing them instantly.

The others didn't find it easy either. Most warriors were injured, and the entire battlefield was tragic.

Xia Bai's squad were all important members and everyone was precious. No one expected them to lose a few elite warriors here.

Ye Zhongming tanked a hit of the scorpion to get close and thrust his blade into its mouth. After paying the price of an injured arm, he killed it.

The two cacti were also sliced by many furious warriors. Only the zombies who lost a large amount of their numbers from the cacti attack remained.

The battle ended quickly, and although Cloud Peak won, Xia Bai's Squad's combat strength reached around half. Apart from those few warriors that died, half were poisoned. Although the situation wasn't too serious, they couldn't continue to fight.

It was obvious that they couldn't continue to explore. Ye Zhongming gave the order to retreat to the Space Stack Gate.

On the way back, the team was solemn. Even if they found companion crystals on those monsters, which proved that they were the same source as those hundreds of zombies they had killed, but it didn't improve their morale.

When they returned to the camp by the gate, the Cloud Peak warriors guarding the place were shocked. How did that happen?

They used saint water and potions to treat the injuries. Those with light injuries recovered quickly, and those with slightly more serious ones would recover tomorrow.

As the Posthumous people didn't send back any bad news, Ye Zhongming could remain here. But he couldn't think of an explanation for what he had faced.

But unexpected things always happened. That night, someone found Cloud Peak.

When he saw those few West Asians, Ye Zhongming felt respect for them. Their levels weren't high, but they dared to travel at night.

But he couldn't sit still when he heard the news they brought.

They brought news from Shiekha Saeed.

Ye Zhongming immediately brought his squad, which had mostly recovered, to follow these people to search for the West Asian who had Star Sand.

Chapter 996: Poor but want to fake

He saw a bunch of mutated camels behind the hill and knew why they dared to travel at night.

Although it wasn't absolute, the food chain still existed to a certain extent. The difference was that the top and bottom of the food chains could attack each other.

After mutations happened, when ones were on the same level, those at the top of the food chain previously would still have an advantage.

Even if that advantage was weakened, even if lifeforms that couldn't fight back before learned how to fight back, it was still the same case.

Of course, the lines have been blurred.

The camels had already been able to survive well in the past. Now that mutations happened, they could still survive in the desert.

It was obvious that these desert experts gave the survivors confidence. At least they were able to fight back against external situations.

Six of them actually brought 15 mutated camels.

“How did you find us?”

Ye Zhongming was curious about their arrival. After all, although they faced many things on this short day, they only spent a short time here. In this vast desert with few people, even if you moved the entire Cloud Peak over, it wasn't easy to bump into others.

“We especially came to find you. Every week, someone will take a look to see if they can find you. It isn't a miracle, just Shiekha Saeed's intellect.”

So Shiekha Saeed sent them to find him, and they would take a look each week, which was why they could discover them. Maybe this was impossible in the past, but now, with the evolved's survivability, they could survive such frequent scouting.

Ye Zhongming was not used to how they spoke, but he didn't bother much about it. He asked more and gained more information as well as more questions.

Sheikha Saeed's camp wasn't here; it was around 100 kilometers away and underground. These people weren't certain about the scale, but they seemed proud.

Ye Zhongming didn't know why that was the case, so he didn't ask for more information. Some things were better asked when he saw Sheikha Saeed.

These level three and four mutated camels were fast in the desert and they were as quick as evolved. The group moved while on guard and arrived when the sky was about to light up.

Ye Zhongming realized that their path was specially designed. They didn't just randomly walk in the desert. To outsiders like Cloud Peak, they were curious at how they differentiated the vast desert. Maybe this was the camel's ability.

The Sheikha Saeed base entrance was under an unassuming hill. When Ye Zongming entered the silver metal gate hidden under the sand, it was like entering another world.

Modern, clean, luxurious...

Just the entrance alone gave them such a feeling.

Cloud Peak was built on a resort, so it was one of the more beautiful and elegant places compared to other factions.

But there was no comparison with this place. Looking at the metal structure, the beautiful decorations on the walls, the curtains on the ground... The gentle music, beautiful servants, giant chandelier...

All of this made people forget that two years of the apocalypse had passed.

“My dear friend, it is an honor to see you.”

Sheikha Saeed, wearing a traditional costume, led a few dozen people to stand in front of the luxurious hall. He spread his arms toward Ye Zhongming.

His face twitched, but he still hugged him to satisfy his warm welcome.

“The real god blesses us; you actually obtained the elemental elf’s recognition!”

The Earth Elf was too obvious, and he couldn’t keep a low profile. But it was rare that someone could name it. This only meant one thing: Sheikha Saeed had seen or even owned an elemental elf.

But this fellow didn’t have the elf on his shoulder, which reduced Ye Zhongming’s confidence.

After settling Xia Bai’s squad down, he led some people to follow Sheikha Saeed into a hall. This place was lit up, and expensive tables and chairs were on top of the carpet. Bottles of red wine that were placed on ice gave off a tempting glow under the light.

Both sides were wary, but the West Asian was very warm.

Sheikha Saeed opened an exquisite box. In it were rows of art-like cigars. Ye Zhongming waved to express that he doesn’t smoke.

It was better to be careful in a foreign environment.

Sheikha Saeed nodded, but he didn’t open any wine either.

He waved for the eight servants to back out. Only 20-odd people from both sides remained.

“Ye, I know that you brought fertile soil.”

Sheikha Saeed recognized the earth elf and the earth element. He was sure that Ye Zhongming had obtained fertile soil. He rubbed his hands excitedly.

Ye Zhongming squinted and didn’t understand why Sheikha Saeed was excited. It was just fertile soil? When they first met, he wasn’t so excited. He wasn’t heart-pained at all when he gave him the golden Space Stack Gate.

Although that was just a portion of the gate.

“I brought fertile soil and would like to trade for some Star Sand.”

Sheikha Saeed wasn’t surprised, but his expression caused Ye Zhongming’s heart to sink.

His words proved Ye Zhongming’s guess.

“Things have changed. Compared to when we met, the situation isn’t good for me. So I don’t have much Star Sand left.”

Ye Zhongming’s expression changed. He came here for the country product and wanted a large amount. Now that Sheikha Saeed told him he didn’t have many, wasn’t he getting played?

But it took him a long time to get here, so he suppressed his rage and asked what was happening.

Sheikha Saeed’s reply shocked them.

This fellow lost power, and the Star Elf was stolen! Sheikha Saeed had to borrow money from his subordinates to live.

Ye Zhongming looked around at the luxurious place and was speechless.

Chapter 997: Reproducing Wheel

Ye Zhongming calmed himself down to listen to Sheikha Saeed describe what he had faced. The slight rage and frustration disappeared, and he was deeply thinking.

He realized that he was in a tough situation.

Sheikha Saeed didn't look so stupid. This fellow probably devised a plan the moment he found out that he came.

Ye Zhongming's choice was given to him by Sheikha Saeed. If he wanted to Star Sand, he had to help him.

The relationship between West Asian factions was far more complicated than China. This had to do with their political situation and faith.

The apocalypse was chaotic, and there was no order. This gave organizations built on blood, religion, and faith to grow.

As a part of the royal family, Sheikha Saeed easily obtained his current position and became the leader of a huge battle squad.

But the apocalypse was still the apocalypse, and many things couldn't be controlled.

As the apocalypse carried on, more people started to set up their own empires, and faith began to crumble.

But two things happened, which caused the situation to turn.

One was the appearance of the Star Elf.

Like the earth elf, the Star Elf provided the people with Star Sand. If you use it, you can save a life. As a material, it could upgrade the equipment's level and give it special powers.

This was one of the best things in the apocalypse.

The group that obtained the Star Elf was the entire royal family.

This caused the situation to stabilize.

The royal family's army and experts got stronger as they obtained Star Sand. They didn't fear and avoid fights with other humans like before.

Those factions that were tempted naturally became quiet.

The second thing was that a special wheel appeared. Or, more accurately, this was a country's special wheel, which was a wheel born from the Star Elf.

But after the wheel appeared, the West Asian didn't complete it entirely. There was also no way that person could complete it, resulting in them only temporarily obtaining the Star Elf's control. The country wheel didn't disappear and used an unbelievable way to continue spreading.

Now, based on what Sheikha Saeed said, the Star Elf started to become unstable, and it might get sucked back into the wheel.

The situation that Sheikha Saeed mentioned referred to himself and the entire West Asia. The country wheel started becoming a plague that spread across the whole region.

Ye Zhongming and his group had bumped into it; it was the fake wheel they had faced!

That was just something that the country wheel had produced.

“The wheel is very tricky. Survivors will spin it, and various desert lifeforms would appear to eat the person who spun it. Those fake wheels will absorb the crystal’s energy to ensure that it evolves and then produce more fake wheels.”

Sheikha Saeed described the problem that all West Asians faced, and he was depressed. He opened a bottle of wine and drank it all.

“At the start, no one knew what those fake wheels were. Survivors spun them, which caused many desert lifeforms to appear. Many camps were destroyed. Then, the news slowly spread, so survivors stopped spinning these fakes. But every period of time, the wheels would give rise to monsters.”

Ye Zhongming recalled some rumors in his last life that described a special wheel that would use a weird method to grow and turn into a terrifying thing.

Of course, those were just rumors. At least in his last life, he hadn’t heard of such things in China.

Those hundreds of zombies they faced at the start were probably lifeforms that the wheel gave birth to.

Ye Zhongming asked about the situation of the wheel and learned that the location of the fake wheel spawn was random. They spread towards the outside.,Wheels surrounded the mother wheel and many desert monsters were there. So, the various West Asian factions couldn’t explore this country wheel again.

Moreover, as the mother wheel continued reproducing, the living space was reduced. Space Stack Gate was already the edge of the region they controlled. This was also why Sheikha Saeed shifted his base away.

“Why don’t you all work together to solve it?”

Ye Zhongming learned from his words that West Asia had many different alliances. They obtained the Star Elf previously because the royal family had good control over them. They worked together to obtain the recognition of the elf, which was why they shared it.

Since that was the case, they should work together to solve it.

Sheikha Saeed smiled awkwardly, “Ye, you don’t understand people like us who always ruled this land. We might work together, but that would only happen when the elf disappears... If not, people would only fake things.”

Ye Zhongming fully understood how stubborn this group was.

They just wanted to maintain their strength and didn’t want to lose their subordinates in the fights so that they could rule this land. Maybe Sheikha Saeed felt that way too. But this fellow suffered many losses and was surpassed by other factions. He suffered many blows and only had this underground base with less than a few thousand people.

After understanding the situation, Ye Zhongming was calmer. Sheikha Saeed didn’t con him, at most, he was just gambling that Star Sand was important to Ye Zhongming. If it was important

enough, then Ye Zhongming would have to work with him. He would be able to give some conditions to solve his situation.

Of course, if Ye Zhongming didn't need it, then he could only blame his luck.

Ye Zhongming knew that he had to work with him. Sheikha Saeed might have said a lot but he didn't reveal any exact information.

Seeing his expression, Sheikha Saeed took out a box and smiled, "If we work together, you will totally win my trust."

Chapter 998: Sheikha Saeed's gift

Ye Zhongming looked at the box he took. He didn't know what was inside. This was something that Sheikha Saeed had prepared a while ago.

He said it was cooperation, but it was basically Sheikha Saeed having something to ask from him. So naturally, he had to show his sincerity. This box should be it.

Sheikha Saeed opened the box, and there were a few things.

"I know you are a significant person in China, so I won't give you ordinary things. I hope you like these few things."

He took a crystal-shaped thing, which caused Ye Zhongming's eyes to open wide.

It was a bloodline crystal!

"Ye, you must know that this is a bloodline crystal. Moreover, this is a special West Asian bloodline-- Sandman."

Sheikha Saeed looked around Ye Zhongming and saw a bit of interest in his eyes. A smile appeared on his face.

"I know that you probably have a bloodline, but that isn't important. This bloodline is a support bloodline, or rather, it is a merge-type bloodline."

Ye Zhongming didn't say anything, but he had a little doubt.

He had lived another life and spent ten years in his last life. Although he wasn't an expert, he heard many pieces of news. He had never heard of a support bloodline; he only knew of explosive and continuous bloodlines.

"Hehe, fellow." Sheikha Saeed didn't care much about how he addressed others, "I know you have never heard of it, but you should know that each region has its specialty products. There is no need for me to lie to you."

Ye Zhongming nodded; that made sense. Sheikha Saeed needed his help to overcome his difficulties and even get the Star Sand back. If he lied to him now, he would be stupid.

"Bloodlines are unique and are difficult to upgrade. However, support bloodlines gave others a chance to get another strong bloodline. If you activate this bloodline,

the Sandman bloodline will merge with your original bloodline and raise the various abilities of the main bloodline.”

It was tough for Ye Zhongming not to be tempted. The hell envoy wasn't as useful as before. If he could upgrade it, that would be good.

“No side effects? No restrictions?”

Ye Zhongming had to consider it. If he used it and the price was that he couldn't upgrade his bloodline ever again, that would be horrible.

“There are no side effects, but there are restrictions.”

Sheikha Saeed held the bloodline crystal and solemnly said, “Maybe the crystal is so strong that even the heavens are jealous. So when you activate it, you need to sacrifice a skill.”

Ye Zhongming's expression changed. Sacrifice a skill? What if it sacrificed the Elimination Technique? Then, should he just die?

“Don't worry; you can control the skill you sacrifice and can even learn a cheap skill to sacrifice. Of course, I don't recommend that, as this sacrifice isn't a simple sacrifice. It would shift this ability into the bloodline.”

Shift the ability into the bloodline? Then, wouldn't the support bloodline merge with the main bloodline?

Ye Zhongming was confused.

Sheikha Saeed coughed. He knew that his explanation wasn't clear enough, “Anyways, there won't be any bad changes. You can understand it as a three-way merger. Main bloodline, Sandman, skill to form a new bloodline.”

Ye Zhongming nodded. He thought back to his job, which was similar but much simpler. He just needed one scroll and a few jobs.

Thinking that way, the support bloodline was easier to understand.

Ye Zhongming judged it to be something good.

Sheikha Saeed was satisfied with Ye Zhongming's expression and knew that this had impressed the Eastern leader, which made things easier.

He took out a second thing. It was a round plate that was man-made and didn't come from the wheel.

“Since your team bumped into the desert lifeforms, you should have obtained many companion crystals, right?”

Ye Zhongming didn't understand at first, but he came to his senses. He took out one crystal and showed it to Sheikha Saeed, and he received a clear reply.

“Yes, this is it.” envy flashed in his eyes, “The country wheel and fake wheels give rise to monsters with this.”

“What is the use?”

“Exchange.”

Exchange? Ye Zhongming was stunned. He thought this thing was useless or similar to crystals and could only be used to spin wheels. He didn't expect that you could exchange things with it.

“But you can't exchange it directly. You need to merge these crystals into a higher-level crystal. Only level nine companion crystals can trade for something good from the Star Wheel.”

Maybe he was afraid that Ye Zhongming didn't believe him. He took out some of the crystals and placed them into the only hole of this wheel. As he placed more inside, it got brighter and brighter. When he placed the sixth crystal, the entire wheel lit up, and then the light dimmed before disappearing. Finally, a new crystal appeared.

Ye Zhongming was shocked. He didn't expect that the companion crystal could be merged.

“Lower-level crystals can be merged to form a higher-level crystal. Merge them level by level until you reach level nine, and then you can spin the Star Mother Wheel once to obtain one of fifty prizes. Of course, there are 37 prizes now.”

Ye Zhongming was more shocked than he looked. This simple equipment had a theory similar to that of crystal weapons. Someone in West Asia could actually do it.

The difference was that the concept here was combining not activating.

But this was enough to cause Ye Zhongming and Xia Bai to be speechless.

“Not everyone can use it. The royal family created this. So, others can only sell their companion crystals to us. We will merge it, and then we will exchange it for items.”

“That is in the past.”

Ye Zhongming's reply caused Sheikha Saeed's smile to freeze. He touched his face awkwardly and said, “This thing is also yours!”

He turned to the final item.

Chapter 999: Sheikha Saeed's gift (2)

Ye Zhongming also saw the final thing in the box and sighed.

Were people so stupid to gift him things before he even helped?

Of course not, but Sheikha Saeed did. What did this mean? It meant that the thing he wanted Ye Zhongming to do was very tough.

Only by giving you something that would tempt you could he make it impossible to reject him when he told you what he wanted.

One had to say that Sheikha Saeed didn't look reliable, but he did things well.

However, this gave Ye Zhongming a new understanding of the West Asian royal family.

This person was not as simple as he seemed.

The second item was the circular plate. This was an obvious trap.

No matter how well Sheikha Saaed described that thing, it couldn't change the fact that it was restrictive. It only had one use- merging companion crystals. To merge the crystals, you had to obtain the crystals. So how could you get them?

There was only one solution, which was to kill those desert monsters.

But those desert monsters were very dangerous—especially those mutated cacti whose attacks caught one off guard.

If you wanted to kill these monsters to get the crystals, you would have to pay a price.

There was a reason why Sheikha Saaed gave him the merging wheels that only the royal family could craft and even promised to let Ye Zhongming exchange for items himself. He wanted to use Ye Zhongming to clear the desert monsters and those fake wheels!

If Ye Zhongming wanted to trade for good items, he had to clear the monsters around the Star Wheel.

But that place was a death zone.

This showed that Sheikha Saaed's gift wasn't so easy to accept.

Ye Zhongming recognized the third item.

It was a Smith Heart.

Intermediate Smith Heart.

"I already noticed you were a great smith during the Ocean King Wheel, so I think you need this. It is a Smith Heart that can increase the level of crafting jobs and permanently increase the success rate."

Sheikha Saaed didn't describe this item in detail. One reason was that there wasn't much to say, and the other was that the simpler his explanation was, the more valuable this item would seem.

Increased crafting job level meant that this was similar to a precious Job advancement scroll. A permanent success rate increase meant that you would save on materials. If you added things up, it meant an unimaginable fortune. In other words, these were evolution potions, lives you could save.

This was very precious, so why did he want to give it away?

Ye Zhongming knew.

This person didn't have the Basic Smith Heart.

The intermediate Smith Heart wasn't so easy to use! It was an upgrade item, and only people who used the Basic Heart could use it. Sheikha Saaed took it out not because he was generous but because he didn't have the basic heart.

Were the items he gave him precious? It was. But be it the support crystal or the wheel, they weren't unique items. Or rather, they were not tough to get.

China didn't have the sandman, but it belonged here. Maybe it wasn't easy, but with Sheikha Saaed's identity and strength, it wasn't too difficult to get it.

The wheel was just an artificial item.

To Sheikha Saaed, the only precious thing was this Intermediate Heart. But it had restrictions.

One had to say that Sheikha Saaed chose good presents and knew how to grasp what the other person needed. He gave out things he could afford to lose to tempt Ye Zhongming.

"I have seen the items; what must I do to get them?"

Ye Zhongming interrupted him. He didn't have time to beat around the bush with this West Asian.

Sheikha Saaed didn't feel embarrassed and just smiled, "Then I will say it."

Sheikha Saaed drank wine while talking about some things.

Half an hour later, Ye Zhongming knew what he wanted.

The first was to help him get his base back. It was occupied by someone. Second was to get the Star Elf. This was actually the same condition as the first, as the person who occupied his base took the Star Elf. But to get the Star Elf, that person must be alive, so it was listed as another condition.

Third, if possible, to help him become king.

Of course, if Ye Zhongming could help him complete that condition, he would also have to do things. For example, lead Ye Zhongming to find the mother wheel and provide him with enough Star Sand. Pay something that was worth what Ye Zhongming was doing.

After asking some things, Ye Zhongming agreed. He had no choice.

Although it was tough, it was better than being lost.

"I need some time; we will head out tomorrow morning."

Ye Zhongming gave his subordinates some orders and then returned to the room that was prepared for him.

Since he got some things, he needed to turn them into his strength.

The first thing he used was the Intermediate Smith Heart.

He just had to eat it.

The outcome was expected. His smith job was upgraded, and the permanent success rate went from 15% to 30%.

That was a terrifying value as it was an increase in the basic value. A 100% success rate was still 100%, but a 70% success rate would turn into 100%.

Even if the success rate were just 1%, that would increase to 31%, which meant that no matter what Ye Zhongming did in the future, his minimum success rate was 30%.

Thinking back to overpowered things like using seals on armor, you would know how useful this was to him.

Maybe Sheikha Saaed didn't expect that Ye Zhongming had the Basic Smith Heart.

He calmed himself down and looked at the other item he could use. Support Bloodline.

He thought about it and decided to sacrifice the Basic Lightning Technique.

Chapter 1000: Double support bloodline

He obtained the Basic Lightning Technique a while ago, but apart from providing an element, it wasn't much use.

The reason was that it was too weak.

With his current level, his opponents could ignore this skill.

Since he was going to sacrifice something, the outcome would be the skill existing in another form; then, it was best to choose a skill that he could afford to lose.

But when he took out the Sandman and activated it the way Shiekha Saaed told him to, it told him that he couldn't use it.

It wasn't that he couldn't use it but because he didn't have enough support bloodline crystals!

The basic Hell Envoy bloodline needed two support crystals to merge.

Ye Zhongming had a headache, but he was quite happy about it.

This meant that his bloodline was good.

When he found Shiekha Saaed to ask for another crystal, the fellow who was about to sleep and had changed into an expensive robe nearly spat the wine he had drunk.

"One more? Why?" Sheikha Saaed was shocked because Ye Zhongming didn't look like someone who would go against his word.

Ye Zhongming relaxed. He was sure that Sheikha Saaed had another piece. If not, his first sentence wouldn't be to ask why but to say that he didn't.

"I need it."

His reply was simple but firm.

This caused Sheikha Saaed to relax. He touched his chin and felt his hands brush across the thick beard.

He smiled. Ye Zhongming handed Sheikha Saaed a bottle similar to the bottle he had given him previously, which contained the Star Sand.

Sheikha Saaed's eyes lit up. In it was the black fertile soil.

"Don't bargain; that thing isn't as valuable as fertile soil. Even if I have the Earth Elf, it isn't a reason for you to increase the price."

Ye Zhongming looked at Sheikha Saaed and knew what he was thinking, so he closed his mouth.

Moreover, he was telling the truth. The Sandman was good but wasn't on the same level as the country product.

This was similar to a rich person being extorted by their relatives.

Sheikha Saaed kept silent before saying, "A five-star potion. I don't have any more, but my subordinate has. I need to give him something. You know that this isn't expensive. If not for him needing it, things might even be tougher."

"Reasonable." Ye Zhongming nodded and took out 100 five-star crystals. He didn't have a potion, but this was enough. If that person was lucky, he might even get two bottles.

Sheikha Saaed took them and then went to find his subordinate with the crystal.

Things went smoothly, and ten minutes later, a new crystal was handed to Ye Zhongming.

"Good luck!" Sheikha Saaed shouted. When he turned around, his eyes were filled with shock.

What bloodline needed two support crystals? That was unbelievable.

Sheikha Saaed returned to his room. He sat speechless on his luxurious bed.

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Ye Zhongming didn't care about what Sheikha Saaed thought. He cared more about the changes in his bloodline.

But right away, he faced a new problem.

He had to sacrifice two skills.

He scratched his head. He sacrificed the Lightning Technique because it wasn't useful to him, so he didn't care.

Ye Zhongming had many equipment, jobs, and crystals but not many skills. He was reluctant to use his other skills besides the Basic Lightning Technique.

But not merge?

He gave up on that thought.

Which one?

He weighed everything and chose the Summoning Technique.

Although it was already intermediate grade, and he didn't know what would happen after sacrificing it, this was the only one. He couldn't sacrifice the Elimination Technique.

After making his choice, he didn't hesitate and started to merge.

Two Sandman crystals cracked. The energy inside entered Ye Zhongming's body. He entered bloodline state and turned dark and empty. An indescribable aura appeared on his body.

Black patterns appeared on his body and face, symbolizing Hell Envoy. As he merged with the Sandman bloodline, some yellow patterns appeared. They started to merge with the black patterns, turning the marks greyish brown.

The color was weird but not ugly. It made him look a little more devilish.

As he sat on the bed, the ground and the bed started to shatter. The wooden shrapnel started to float. The ground turned pitch black, and then sand specks appeared.

Those pieces of sand didn't spend much time in the darkness. They started to condense into shape. A human-shaped beast nearly the height of a human formed. It had two horns and black eyes. Even if its body was made of sand, it couldn't hide the strong aura.

Lightning rose from the ground, wrapped around the monster, and then condensed on its horns.

Ye Zhongming's eyes were still closed, and he couldn't see all this. The monster turned around like it was sizing up the environment. It raised its head and looked above.

The monster raised a hand, and sand surged towards the top, hitting the metal roof. There was an explosion, and in the next moment, the sand smashed a hole into the thick metal roof.

It wasn't over. The lightning on its horns exploded when the beast placed his hand down. A breath later, a giant lightning surged at the hole in the roof.