## The Legendary Hero 391 - 400

Chapter 391: Aroshia, Grade A

Chain Mission (2)

The slave market was being rebuilt. Han Xiao showed his identity to the

construction team and entered the underground corridor successfully. He

came to the cell that Aroshia had once been in, looked around, knocked

here and there, and did not find anything unusual.

Floating Dragon had searched the cell long before him, and they did not

find anything either.

Aroshia stood outside the door and watched. She suddenly asked, "Why do

you want to bring me away?"

Han Xiao paused for a moment. He definitely could not say that it was a

mission requirement, so he said, "I'm very curious about you."

"Curious..." Aroshia mumbled. "What is that?"

"Curiosity is the desire for knowledge. For example, when a normal person

loses their memory, they want to know who they were before.

This is a type

of desire."

"Desire... I don't seem to have this sort of thing. Is that special?"

"Er, usually, those without desires are artificial intelligence, and not needing

to consume or excrete is a characteristic of energy life forms."

Han Xiao

sized Aroshia up and said, "But you're neither of them. You just don't have

the basic physical needs, you might not have no desire at all.

Don't you

have anything you want?"

Aroshia thought carefully and said, "I don't think so."

"Are you sure? Since you asked me a question, that's the curiosity of

wanting to know what 'desire' is," Han Xiao said. "Desire is the sign of

life, a feeling that makes people realize their existence. It can also be said

that it's the motive for every action a life form takes. Therefore, a life form

like you seems very unique."

Aroshia tilted her head, pondered, and said, "Is the reason for you teaching

me how to use the energy inside my body also your own desire?" "I want you to be stronger and become a help to me," Han Xiao said

honestly. He had figured out a few ways to communicate with Aroshia.

There was no need to pretend—he just had to be straightforward and

express his motive.

As always, Aroshia still had a carefree attitude. "I won't die, so what's the

point of becoming stronger. Strong or weak, it's all meaningless.

Or I

should say, existence itself is meaningless."

Han Xiao thought about it and said, "But if you die, your memory will be

reset. You'll forget about this short-term memory. The 'you' after reviving

might not be who 'you' are now. Once you revive, you'll start from the

beginning again, thinking the same things you have been thinking, wasting

the same time you have already wasted, only to end up in the same place

you are now. Becoming stronger will help you to avoid reviving, preventing

yourself to be killed by others or disasters."

Han Xiao paused and said, "And about meaning... You don't need food and

excretion to maintain your life, so you can't feel existence. If your mind is

blank, a day or even a year will feel like an instant. Hence, why not find

something to do and give meaning to your life?"

"I see..." Aroshia mumbled a while, nodded, and said, "Thank you, talking

with you is very pleasant. No one had ever said this much to me."
In the past three years, the others only had two impression of her—A Space

Wonder or a slave that did not run away. Never was there someone that

communicated with her like she was a normal individual.

This\_content is taken from

"Don't mention it, it's just chitchat."

There was no clue in the prison cell. Han Xiao could only stop and casually

chat with Aroshia, waiting for the time limit to arrive and see what would actually happen.

Seconds and minutes passed. As the last minute ended, the change

happened.

Aroshia was still standing outside the door—she did not return to

the cell.

She took a few steps backward, then looked down on her body. Nothing

unusual happened. Then she backed off further and further.

[Visitor From Afar] Completed You have received 1,800,000 Experience.

Han Xiao was so surprised her eyebrows almost raised uncontrollably.

He hardly did anything at all, yet a Space Wonder that even the Floating

Dragon could not resolve was gone just like that. There was definitely more

to it! Han Xiao recalled that this mission had an unknown reward.

He

looked at the interface and realized that this reward turned out to be a new mission.

You Have Triggered Grade A Hidden Chain Mission, [Reboot]
Mission Introduction: Aroshia is a unique life form. An enormous secret

lies within her. Bring her alongside you, and one day, this secret will find

you.

Reminder: This is a Chain Mission. The next mission will only be unlocked

once the previous one is completed.

First Round: Teach Aroshia. Help her to awaken her power, control the

energy inside her body, and reach Grade B

Reward: 5,200,000 Experience, 1 x Random Reward, +5 Risda Favorability

Failure Condition: Aroshia dead

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Chain Mission type grade A hidden mission! Han Xiao was shocked. This

was usually something that only happened in large Main Storyline events.

He had no information about this storyline in his previous life, which meant

that no one had triggered it. This was an unknown event. He was more

assured that Aroshia was not ordinary. The mission name was [Reboot]—

what did that mean? Also, who was this person called Risda?

"Apparently, I'm able to leave." Aroshia was confused. "What did you do

to me?"

"I have no idea..." Han Xiao said. "Anyways, this is a good thing."

. . .

Two days later, the superiors of the three large mercenary group arrived late

at Floating Dragon. Jenny had a meeting with them. After she accepted

their apologies, she finally released Goa, Porter, and Cerleni's teams who

had been locked up for many days.

Right after these people got out, they surrounded Han Xiao and expressed

their gratitude and praise.

The superiors of the three armies came to contact Han Xiao with very

friendly attitudes. Every mercenary could feel how their superiors took Han

Xiao seriously. Han Xiao had showcased his abilities in this mission, and

now that he had the backing of Floating Dragon, even the three large armies

could not take him lightly.

After they were free, they immediately prepared to leave Floating Dragon

and go back to complete the mission, returning the Silvers to the longawaited employer. The reason Han Xiao had waited till now was to travel

together with them.

On the day of their departure, Jenny, Wilsander, and Haier all came to send

him off.

The entire dock was stunned. People from everywhere sized Han Xiao up

with shock as he chatted with the three of them. Black Star Mercenary

Group's position there was definitely high, given the fact that three of them

were sending him off.

The people who knew what had happened were even more surprised. It had

only been a short half a month since Han Xiao joined Floating Dragon, and

he had been able to work his way up so high in such a short period. The

three of them had come to send him off, which meant that they gave him a

lot of face. Even the superiors of the three armies were only able to see

Jenny.

"Her Excellency Dragon Emperor has allowed you to be a Field

Team.

You're now a field commander. Your power is Floating Dragon's external

military power, so we hope you can grow stronger quickly,"

Jenny said in a

very formal tone. She took out a specially made communicator and passed

to Han Xiao. "This communicator can be used to contact Ames directly.

However, as a reminder, if there's no absolute need, it's best not to disturb

her."

Able to contact Ames directly? This small thing is equal to a nuclear

launcher! Han Xiao stowed it carefully.

Haier crawled over and said regretfully, "You're quite a good Hero.

After you're gone, my workload will go up again. This gift is for you."

Looking down, Haier's pedipalp passed an alloy box over. Han Xiao's eyes

sparkled as he opened to look at it.

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Inside was a mini portable nuclear reactor. Stable nuclear reactors were

something that could only be built with advanced energy knowledge.

Energy knowledge was more difficult to obtain than compression technology, so he could not build it currently. Now that he had the reactor,

he could add materials and use it to generate power, then use it at the power

core of a Heroal suit. The output of the Heroal suit would reach

new heights.

"Thank you." Han Xiao nodded with joy on his face.

After Haier walked away, Wilsander came closer and said, "Haier is a little

ugly. I felt he was hard to look at initially but got used to it after some time.

His personality is quite good."

Han Xiao glanced at him and said, "Ames probably feel this way about

you."

Wilsander's expression collapsed immediately.

"Don't change the topic, did you bring a gift?"

"No."

"Bye." Han Xiao turned around and entered the ship.

"Come on, why is the treatment difference this huge!" Wilsander said

resentfully on the dock.

Hu!

The ship took off.

Floating Dragon Island gradually became smaller in his eyes. He left with

four more people than he entered with—three Volga brothers sleeping on

the side and Aroshia, who was gazing out of the porthole.

There were both pros and cons to joining the Dragon Emperor's faction. At

the moment, the pros largely outweighed the cons. Not only did he receive

new blueprints and materials, his talent evolved as well. The most priceless

thing that he got during this mission should be the Secret Message Bead.

The higher the risk it brought, the higher the value it would bring.

. . .

As Floating Dragon Island had already drifted to the Fawn Galaxy, less than

one day after they left, they had already returned to the desolate planet that

the employer was waiting for them on.

As soon as they landed, the Silvers could not wait to return, filled with the

joy of escaping death.

After the employer calmed down, he paid the reward as promised.

The source of this\_chapter;

Finally, I have the last two knowledges of Compression

Technology. Han

Xiao breathed a sigh of relief. For these two knowledges, he had taken on

an unfamiliar mission, and it had been exhausting. But at long last, it was

time to reap the rewards.

Chapter 392: The Sudden Arrival

of a Fleet

What Sky Ring, Blades, and Purple Gold wanted was money,

whereas the

reward that Han Xiao requested was the two advanced knowledges of the

compression technology. After the employer wired the money to the three

armies, he personally approached Han Xiao and thanked him sincerely.

The employer had initially paid more attention to the more renowned three

large armies. The biggest reason that he hired Black Star was because the

other mercenary groups changed their mind and none of them dared go to

Floating Dragon Island. He did not expect this small mercenary group to be

the key to the success of the mission.

"My friends wouldn't have returned safely if it wasn't for you."
As he was speaking, he and all the rescued Silvers put down their

sense of

superiority as royalties and greeted Han Xiao with the sincerest way to

express gratitude in the Silver culture.

Goa and the others received the same treatment as well. They were a little

ashamed, knowing that they had been imprisoned the entire time and it was

Han Xiao who had turned the tables and completed the mission.

"Sadly, two of your friends died," Han Xiao said.

"Sigh, they're unlucky, but you're not to blame. The Shattered Star Ring is

too dangerous, so we'll be leaving in just a while. I hope to hire you guys as

guards and protect us on our way home."

The three armies kindly rejected the offer—they were not willing to travel

that far. The Sea of Star Spirits and Shattered Star Ring were two Star

Fields away, so it would take too long to travel there and return even with

the star gate that could transport them across Star Fields.

"What about you?" The employer looked at Han Xiao.

Han Xiao shook his head and said, "Sorry, it's too far, not inside my

business scope."

Although the Sea of Star Spirits' resources was richer than Shattered Star

Ring, it would waste a lot of time if they traveled there. It was all

doing

missions and earning money anyway, so he preferred not to travel for it.

The Shattered Star Ring was rural and dangerous, but it had a lot of

opportunities.

"That's a pity. If there is a chance in the future, I hope to invite you to travel

to our home for a trip..."

The employer shook his head and gave him the reward.

The mission complete notification appeared on the interface. He received

more than 4,000,000 experience at once plus the 5,000 Enas.

Including the

amount that he had obtained through blackmailing, he had obtained more

than 40,000 Enas.

The other players' rewards were not as rich as their captain's, but it was

quite good nonetheless, so they were all smiling with satisfaction.

The communicator vibrated as it received the two knowledges.

This was a

special reward that only Han Xiao received. He checked and made sure that

they were correct, then immediately chose to learn them.

Learning... Successfully Learned! You have learned [High Density Material Compression Technology]!

Learning... Successfully Learned! You have learned [Basic Spatial Technology]!

You have acquired ability [Super Compression Technology]!

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You have acquired ability [Basic Machinery Construction]! You have acquired ability [Weight Reduction Structure]!

## Advertisement

As always, he felt the familiar headache, which only went away after quite

some time. Without hesitation, he spent twenty Potential Points and leveled

up these two knowledges to the max level.

Heros used different knowledge combinations depending on what style

they were using, but these knowledges were a must-learn for all Heros,

and their level had to be maxed.

The knowledges of the compression technology had a hidden connection.

Only by possessing all of them would one learn the ability of Compression

Technology, and this was the sign of the rise of Heros in Version 3.0.

[Super Compression Technology] folded the machineries. As the ability

became stronger, it could fold larger machineries into the size of a finger,

and its effect was enhanced by Machinery Affinity, level, and Intelligence.

Currently, Han Xiao's limit was folding medium-sized machines, which

was most of the machines that he could build at the moment, such as

firearms, Rangers, Amphiptere, and others.

As the size of his machines decreases after compression, their

density

increased. The mass of an object never changed, so its weight remained the

same. However, [Weight Reduction Structure] would solve this problem. It

used many technologies to achieve an internal repulsive force, creating an

independent hovering field, maintaining a very low weight in various

gravitational environments. It was suitable for many materials.

This was a

basic technology to achieve large scale compressions.

To achieve compression, folding structures needed to be added into the

machines, increasing its complexity by multiple times. For convenience,

many machines would be split up during compression, then reconnected

back to their original form when they were expanded, using [Basic

Machinery Construction]. This was an active ability that required energy to

use, enabling extremely high-speed weapon assembly during combat. As

long as there were parts, Heros would never run out of ammo.

When killing other players in his previous life, the usable parts of weapons

and robots of Heros that were shattered seconds ago would be immediately reconstructed into other weapons, largely increasing the

continuous combat capability and annoyance of the Hero Class.

If not for this ability that acted as a 'recycle' mechanism, the cost of using

the Heroal Army Style would have been many times higher.

From Han Xiao's perspective, his Hero class could only be counted as

shaped now that he had gotten these three abilities.

With Super Compression Technology and Basic Machinery Construction,

my combat style will receive revolutionary upgrades. All my equipment

needs to be modified into a compressed form. The number of weapons that I

can equip will increase dozens of times. I won't need to fight head-on

wearing my Heroal suit anymore. Finally, I can bully others with my

'Machinery Sea' tactic.

Finally, the bitter days came to an end!

This time, the superiors of Blades and Purple Gold approached.

"Black Star, we want to sign a partnership with you, inviting you to be our

ally."

These two superiors were the ones in charge of this area; them sending an

invitation personally showed their sincerity.

The structure of large armies was similar. With Sky Ring Army as an

example, the Army Commander was the leader and the only one that had

the five rings level. Followed by two grade A Deputy Army Commanders.

There were two types of four rings members—one was grade B+ HighClass Combat Personnel, and another was High-Class Managers, in charge

of one business area. The superior from Sky Ring was one of them,

someone in charge of numerous galaxies.

Going further down the corporate table, one would find three rings officers

like Goa, who usually brought a large team along but also could choose to

work alone. They also had the authority to assemble a team temporarily.

Han Xiao had become an ally of Sky Ring earliest, and now,

Blades and

Purple Gold also saw Black Star's potential, so they took the initiative to

invite him. Large armies like these would only be the one initiating a

partnership when they valued someone heavily.

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One more large army partner meant more opportunities for missions. Han

Xiao agreed and signed the contract.

The Blades and Purple Gold mercenaries immediately looked at him in a

friendlier way—a partner was half as good as one of their own.

Sky Ring, Blades, and Purple Gold were the most renowned armies in their

Star Cluster. Becoming their partner was a very rare opportunity.

Many

normal mercenary groups would not even have the chance to request a

partnership with just one of them, yet Han Xiao was a partner to all three of

them.

After the rewards were given out, the Silvers boarded the spaceship and slowly took off.

The mercenaries were getting ready to leave as well. Goa found

Han Xiao

and asked, "Where are you planning to go?"

Han Xiao pondered and said, "Colton Star Cluster Star Zone One, Godora

Colonized Planet. 'Golden Palace'."

The players were surprised when they heard.

"Black Phantom, are we not going back to Juberly Hub?" a player asked.

"Not yet, we have other things to do... Also, call me Black Star."
Many

players were used to calling him by his previous moniker and found it hard

to adjust. Han Xiao made an effort to make sure they called him by the

correct name. Since they were already in space, his nickname would, of

course, have to keep up with the times.

"What are you going to Golden Palace for?" Herlous asked curiously.

"To find someone." Han Xiao did not explain it clearly. The others did not

ask too much—they just had to follow their captain.

He was not planning to return to Juberly Hub for the time being.

The Secret

Message Bead was a hot potato, and he wanted to identify it first.

Fortunately, it just so happened that he knew that a top-notch

Godoran

Mage was secluded in Golden Palace, who was good at analyzing magic

patterns and charged a fee to identify unknown magic items for customers.

That person was like a functional item identifying NPC in the eyes of the

players.

"Let us send you there then," Goa said.

If it was someone else, Sky Ring would have sent them to a public planet at

most and not sent them straight to the destination like Han Xiao.

Han Xiao boarded Sky Ring's spaceship. He felt the spaceship vibrate and

slowly take off. The ground shrunk in his eyes.

He moved to the bow of the spaceship and looked out the window.

The two

spaceships of Blades and Purple Gold were taking off at the same time

beside them.

Very soon, they rose thousands of meters above and were about to leave the

atmosphere of this planet, entering the dark space.

The Silvers had taken off earlier than them, so they were already in space

and were very far away. They could barely be seen.

At this moment, an enormous and thick laser beam suddenly penetrated the

Silver spaceship. The next moment, the Silver spaceship turned into a

firework in space.

Everyone saw the explosion, but no sound reached them through the

vacuum. The Silvers who were just inviting them to their home not long

ago were now all turned into ash, dying silently.

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There was no sound in outer space—death seemed like a small matter.

It was deadly silent outside, but it was loud inside the spaceship.

"What's going on? Who attacked the Silvers?"

The Sky Ring mercenaries were stunned.

This time, space ripples appeared. A large and black DarkStar mothership

deactivated its stealth mode, many small battleships detached from the

mothership and approached quickly like black locusts. Their targets were

the three mercenary spaceships.

All the people who might have seen the Secret Message Bead were

captured, and DarkStar had yet to find the bead. The mercenaries were the

last target—the possibility of it being with them was the highest. However,

DarkStar did not know whose hands it was in, so they decided to target all

the mercenaries.

After Ember's failure, DarkStar ordered Sarota's fleet to come to the planet

where the Silver employer was and capture all the mercenaries ruthlessly.

Inside the Secret Message Bead was something that DarkStar had spent a

hundred million Enas to buy, a key item for them to deal with Godora's

plans. There was no way they were going to give it up.

"DarkStarp"

Everyone was shocked when they recognized the renowned DarkStar

Mothership.

We were never involved with DarkStar, why are they attacking us? Furthermore, they are sending an entire fleet for just three spaceships, what

sort of vendetta is this?

"Stop dazing about, turn back!" Han Xiao yelled, reminding the dumbfounded pilot. The spaceship made a sharp turn and dived toward the

ground, and the other two spaceships followed.

Ohmm!

The sharp turn made the spaceship tremble, and many people could not

maintain balance and almost fell.

An entire DarkStar fleet surrounded this planet. The difference in the

number of spaceships and combat power was too huge, so the mercenaries

had no chance to break through the siege. Once they entered space, without

any obstructions, they would be destroyed by focus fire in no time.

They

could not escape the siege, as they would be stopped before they could

enter the jumping state, which meant they had nowhere to run.

The only way out was to call for backup and stall for time inside the

atmosphere. The chance of survival was low, but it was better than certain

death.

Han Xiao was frowning. DarkStar's persistence and decisiveness were

beyond his expectations—they were not going to give up on even the

slightest possibility, which proved what he thought earlier. The more value

the Secret Message Bead had, the higher the risk was.

What a coincidence, the Secret Message Bead is really in my hands. They

don't even know it.

This was not even a battle; it was like a hunter chasing after prey.

The small

spaceships of the mercenaries were absolutely no match for the DarkStar

fleet. The only good news was that DarkStar did not fire immediately—it

seemed like they wanted to capture them alive. This made the mercenaries

feel a little more at ease, with there at least being a chance to negotiate.

"This is the most dangerous situation I have ever met!" Han Xiao felt his

heart was beating very fast. Not only was he not panicking, but he was

excited.

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"Chance of getting out unharmed is less than ten percent. Now,

this is

interesting..."

He licked his lips, and excitement flashed in his eyes.

Those that were faced with imminent death either became terrified of death

or fearless. He happened to be the latter. After experiencing countless

dangers and even dying once, he had surpassed fear long ago.

Chapter 393: Power of the

Experienced

During the process of the spaceship diving down, the pilot sent out a

distress signal to the area channel, and invisible waves spread out in space.

The area channel was like the public channel for players—all the spaceships

passing by the area were able to receive it.

"This is Fawn Galaxy, the territory of Holy Stone Civilization and Black

Raven Civilization. Friction occurs very often due to territory boundaries.

These two large civilizations always have people stationed nearby, and they

have set up very strong signal receivers that are sensitive to all sorts of

waves. The Fawn Galaxy radiation is always operating at high output,

which means that this area is like a bright spot in both of their detectors. If

DarkStar activated a signal disruptor, there would be an obvious area with

shade out of nowhere. Holy Stone Civilization and Black Raven Civilization would think its each other's forces, they would definitely send

people over," Goa explained. "Therefore, I'm fifty percent sure that

DarkStar is not disrupting the signal."

Buzz!

Communication requests from Porter and Cerleni appeared on the screen,

discussing their strategies anxiously. They had sent out a distress signal as

well, but Cerleni was very pessimistic. "Even if someone receives our

signal, the problem is, who dares to come? DarkStar is the one attacking us

after all. Holy Stone and Black Raven might come to just watch and guard

against DarkStar in case they have other motives, or they might not be

willing to waste their military power to help us, a group of irrelevant

mercenaries. Unlike Godora, who have so much hatred toward DarkStar,

Holy Stone and Black Raven might not want to mess with DarkStar.

The three of them looked at their superiors, and the superiors nodded

firmly.

"We have already contacted the commander; he will come to save us. He's

sending emergency dispatch orders to the nearby teams. We fear DarkStar,

but we definitely will not let them do whatever they want, and we will

certainly not give up on our own people. The commander is currently

assembling a fleet and sending out messages to all partners. We have to

protect ourselves. Stall for time—there will definitely be someone here to

save us."

All the mercenaries were instantly motivated, and a sense of honor rose in

their hearts as firmness and hope appeared on their faces.

"Large armies really are different—they're very united." Han Xiao was

envious. There were definitely some things that large armies did right after

being created for so many years. Although they were all mercenaries that

valued rewards, given that they could unite strong forces from everywhere

showed that they knew how to build a sense of belonging.

Although many

members knew about this, they could not deny that they enjoyed it. After

all, being in an organization that did not give up on its members was one

thing that bonded them together in this cold universe.

DarkStar was known to be fearsome, but Sky Ring, Blades, and Purple

Gold were not some organizations that they could easily mess with. Other

than their own forces, they also had a very complicated network in the

mercenary industry. They had many partners, and they were all very strong

individuals or organizations. It was not simply three large armies that

DarkStar messed with—it was half of the entire mercenary industry

throughout the three nearest Star Clusters!

In other words, DarkStar was used to being unbridled, but this time, they

stabbed the hornet's nest.

However, a distant water source could not put out a nearby fire immediately.

Han Xiao took out the unidirectional communicator that Jenny had given

him. He calmed his mind and sent the request.

The mercenaries called for backup, and he also requested help from his

cheap boss. He was not putting all his hope on the three armies.

"Didn't expect to use it this soon..."
Ding.

Ames appeared on the screen. Han Xiao saw the environment Ames was in

—a palace filled with a sense of magic, built with obsidian, white crystal,

Mithril, fine gold, jade, and precious stones, like a piece of jewelry enlarged

thousands of times. Mysterious magic patterns hovered in the air, colorful

and bright. Many translucent magic dragons swam happily in the air. Ames

was sitting in front of a small hovering table, and on it were all sorts of

unique and rare foods. Sitting opposite her was... a kid in a red and white

magic cape. He looked about six to seven years old, with sharp ears, white

and tender skin, and a cute round face. The cape on him was like a blanket

—it did not fit at all. The cape was long, but the kid was short, so it was

almost burying him.

Han Xiao's mouth twitched. This little kid was another beyond grade A

being of the Shattered Star Ring, a Mage whose race was a long-lived

species that looked like humans on the outside, but his real age was

hundreds or maybe even a thousand years old. Also, he was a fighting

opponent of Ames'. More accurately, Ames was there as a guest.

The four

beyond grade A beings in the Shattered Star Ring knew each other. Fighting

was just to kill time, and once they were tired from fighting, they would sit

down to rest and have a meal together in a very peaceful manner... Han

Xiao just pitied that small planet.

Ames' eyebrow raised a little. "It's you, my new subordinate."
"... Did you forget my name?"

Ames swiped the communicator like she was looking for something. One

second later, she said with a very natural tone, "Black Star, what is the

reason for you contacting me? Have you found the whereabouts of my

teacher?"

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She emphasized Han Xiao's name like she was trying to say that she did not

forget.

Han Xiao shook his head and said, "The aircraft I'm currently in is attacked

by DarkStar. The situation is dire, so I'm here to ask you for help."

"Why did DarkStar attack you?" Ames asked curiously. Han Xiao coughed.

"A few days ago, DarkStar caused trouble on Floating Dragon while you

were not there. It seems like they were up to something.

Coincidentally, I

happened to disrupt their plan. This attack should be an act of revenge."

Ames tilted her head. She recalled Jenny's report. Now that DarkStar was

mentioned, she seemed to have some kind of beef with DarkStar,

and she

had even been planning to find trouble with them earlier.

"Alright, wait there, I'll go when I'm free," Ames said with a casual tone,

then hung up the communication.

Han Xiao was speechless. Ames attitude was carefree, so he had no way to

force her to come immediately. He was not strong enough, so he could only

seek help from someone stronger.

You have triggered an urgent mission [Escape]!

Mission Introduction: Start running.

Mission requirement: Escape DarkStar's pursuit and stall till

backup

arrives.

Reward: Basic reward 800,000 experience. The final reward depends on

mission rating. The basic reward is given when achieving the lowest rating,

D. After lasting for 2 days, the mission rating will reach D. The rating will

increase by one level every 12 hours thereafter.

Failure Condition: Captured by DarkStar.

Han Xiao looked around at the players and realized that their faces changed

a little—they had probably triggered the mission as well.

This time, the reward for the players was exactly the same as Han Xiao, so

all the players were shocked!

800,000 experience!

Han Xiao was long used to it; it was not much for him. However,

to the

players, this was the highest reward that they had ever seen in a mission!

Shock, joy, surprise—various expressions appeared on the players faces.

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Han Xiao analyzed the information that he read between the lines of the

mission. The lowest rating requires me to last for two days. This should

mean the earliest backup will only arrive after two days. Which means that

we need to fight alone for two days...

He was instantly troubled. They might not even last two hours,

let alone

two days.

This time, the aircraft finally returned to the ground and flew at a low

altitude. This desolated planet was almost completely empty. It had no

forests and no signs of life, and it was filled with stones and mountains. The

only good thing about it was that its terrain was vicious enough.

The three

aircrafts took the same approach—stall for as much time as possible by

using the obstacles in the terrain.

Boom boom!

Hundreds of mini DarkStar hovering ships were in pursuit, firing green

colored low-energy laser cannons from above, chasing after three spaceships, and creating clusters of dust on the ground. The sound of

explosions was nonstop, and the spaceships' shields were flashing

from the impact.

DarkStar wanted to capture them alive. They did not want to destroy the

spaceships as it would destroy the Secret Message Bead that might be in the

hands of one of them. So, they sent out mini hovering ships that were less

than ten meters long. The mini laser cannons had very low power too, good

for damaging yet not destroying. Using speed and mobility, they would

force the mercenaries to give up their spaceships.

"Split up!"

The three spaceships dashed past a black and gray colored menacing

mountain, then suddenly split up and escaped in three different directions.

Green lasers hit the mountain. With a loud bang, its peak broke and rolled

down its hill, stirring up a cloud of thick dust. The hovering ships split into

three groups as well, chasing after the spaceships.

The Sky Ring spaceship that Han Xiao was on was being chased by about a

hundred hovering ships. However, unluckily, the direction that they turned

toward was a plain land without any obstacles.

"This is bad!" Their faces changed.

The pilot was covered in sweat, trying his best to control the spaceship and

dodge the attacks. The dust created by the green lights was like a fountain.

The spaceship was able to dodge some lasers, but it was getting

hit more

often than when the three spaceships were together. The shield was flashing

rapidly.

"Warning! Warning! Sixty-seven percent energy left in shield!

Energy level

entered the yellow warning zone! Please refill in time!"

"Energy core close to overload! Please cool down in time!"

A string of warnings was announced, like a hammer hitting their hearts.

The pilot's face was pale.

Suddenly, they saw Han Xiao walk out of the crowd. He walked to the

pilot's side, pressed on his shoulder, and said in a confident tone, "Stand up,

give me the seat."

The face of all the mercenaries in the spaceship changed.

Changing pilot

during the fight, are you sure?

Goa stared at Han Xiao and said, "This concerns the life or death of

everyone here, do you know what you're doing?"

Han Xiao nodded and said, "If he continues piloting, the chance of crashing

is ninety-nine percent. If I do, it's only thirty-percent."

"You!" The pilot was outraged.

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Goa stared at Han Xiao for a full two seconds, then nodded and said,

"Okay, you do it."

The Sky Ring mercenaries were shocked. Even though they knew Han

Xiao's capabilities, piloting a spaceship was completely different

from

fighting. In such urgent situations, no one would be willing to entrust their

fate to someone whose pilot skill was unknown.

"If we carry on this way, in less than an hour, our ship would crash. Let him

try," Goa explained.

Although the pilot knew that this was a fact, he was unwilling to let

someone else control his fate. After the expression on his face changed

several times, he finally gave the position to Han Xiao.

Han Xiao took over the pilot position immediately. This time, Goa walked

to him and said in a very serious tone, "Black Star, our lives are in your

hands... You must—must—be careful about this."

At this moment, the mercenaries could only place their hopes on Han Xiao.

Quite a number of mercenaries actually knew how to pilot a spaceship, but

no one was confident that they could do it better than the previous pilot, nor

did they have the guts to take on this responsibility, worrying that their

mistake might kill everyone. This was a very large amount of pressure, and

no one dared do it. Now that Han Xiao had stepped forward at this crucial

moment, they could only hope that he was dependable.

"Black Star, you know how to pilot spaceships?" Herlous said with surprise.

"I know many things. Do you know me very well?"

Han Xiao adjusted the control panels casually and easily.

Piloting a spaceship is nothing; I used to pilot Heroal suits!

Like the difference between a passenger aircraft pilot and a fighter plane

pilot, one requires safety and stability, and the other requires complexity.

The difficulty of piloting a Heroal suit was much higher than a fighter

plane.

Han Xiao was someone who had horned his pilot skills killing other players

in the galactic battlefields! Even in the entire universe, he was a top-notch

ace pilot!

They suddenly heard an announcement from the system.

"Adjustment complete. Shield output decreased to 20%..."

"Have you lost your mind?" the pilot yelled uncontrollably.

Everyone was shocked. Han Xiao weakened the shield as soon as he took

over. The spaceship's defensive capability was largely decreased.

If they got

hit by attacks like earlier, the body of the spaceship would be damaged.

Was that reminder all for nothing?

Goa was filled with regret. Just as he was about to yell, another announcement sounded from the system.

"All energy is being directed into the engine... complete."

Han Xiao turned his head back a little and gave the people behind him a

reminder.

The latest\_epi\_sodes are on\_the website.

"Hold tight."

The next moment, the sudden explosive recoil tore straight through the

internal gravitational stabilization of the spaceship—everyone staggered

and fell down in unison.

The yelling that was just about to come out of Goa's mouth fell right back

down his throat!

Chapter 394: Speed and Motion

Sickness

On a desolate, unpopulated planet, a chase was underway on its gray plains.

Almost a hundred hovering ships were chasing after the Sky Ring spaceship. The Sky Ring spaceship's exhaust flames expanded violently in

an instant. The sudden increase of speed was like a tornado that stirred up

countless dust from the floor.

Hum!

Dashing at a low altitude, the head of the boat was covered in dust, like a

high-speed triangular speedboat dashing across the ocean.

Boom!

The hovering ships hastily increased their speed as well, but they could

barely keep up with the Sky Ring spaceship. Many hovering ships'

accuracy decreased noticeably because of the angles, and their attacks

missed much more often.

The spaceship was trembling like it would crash at any moment, but

everyone felt the visible change. Although it felt more dangerous, the

number of times that the spaceship got hit decreased drastically.

The high

mobility largely enhanced the ship's ability to dodge. The weakened shield

was just strong enough to endure these attacks. Han Xiao's piloting skills

were horrifying.

By increasing the power of the engine, the difficulty in piloting would

increase as well. Yet, As compared to the previous pilot, everyone could

directly feel the difference when Han Xiao took over. It was like the

spaceship became 'alive'! It felt like the spaceship became an extension of

Han Xiao's body.

The gravity in the spaceship was finally calibrated. The people stood up one

after another, and their doubts all disappeared.

They were overjoyed by Black Star, who took on such crucial responsibility

in the current dire situation. Anything that could better the situation was a

pleasant surprise. They never expected Black Star to have this up his

sleeves.

"Fantastic!" Goa's tone changed instantly. A glimpse of a smile appeared

on her expressionless face. "At this pace, the damage dealt by the hovering

ships will be minimal. You did very well!"

"What?" Han Xiao was confused. "This is just basic controlling.

I have not

done anything yet."

The higher the speed, the better his controls. He was far from his limit at the

current speed.

Sadly, if he increases the speed further, the shield would be too thin. He was

worried that he might be rusty after not piloting a battleship for so long.

Maintaining the current shield thickness was a safer choice for him.

However, in the mercenaries' eyes, the shield's thickness was already

horrifyingly thin, yet Black Star said that this was just his basic controls?

What was he going to do then?

A bad feeling arose in everyone's heart.

Han Xiao stretched his wrist and said, "Hold on tight."

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With the lesson of falling right on the floor earlier, no one ignored his

reminder this time. They held onto anything that they could as soon as

possible. Their faces were filled with nervousness.

Hum!

In an instant, the Sky Ring spaceship started to drift, like a raging horse

trying to get rid of the rider on its back!

All kinds of tricks were interjoined smoothly—lateral rollover, roller

coaster, Z-maneuver, and so on. The spaceship had still been flying in a

straight line just one second ago, and now it was completely random!

The hovering ship fleet was already having a hard time following,

and now

that Han Xiao was moving this way, their formation became broken

immediately. Many hovering ships blocked the shooting range of the fleet

behind them. Their laser fire became sparser, and the threat level of the

attack decreased largely again.

Everyone felt like they were in a can that was being shaken violently. For

the first time, they felt inertia that pulled them in all directions.

Their

stomach acid was rushing up, their brain juice was vibrating, and their faces

were pale white. Their vision started to blur, and the surrounding environment and people started to have mirror images.

After piloting spaceships for so many years, the pilot felt like he was back

to when he first started learning. The dizziness was like an old friend that he

had not met for a long time. He could almost see his pilot teacher waving at

him with a smile on his face.

Han Xiao could still divert his attention and said, "That pilot, come and

control the weapon. If we keep running and don't fire back at all, it will be

the end of us sooner or later. Fire when you see a chance."

The pilot hastily followed the order and sat in the weapon operating seat.

Compared to Black Star, his piloting skills became completely ordinary.

The resentfulness before completely disappeared—he was now only scared

that he might burden Han Xiao.

"On my count—five, four, three..."

Han Xiao stared at the screen, then did one more drift that messed up the formation of the hovering ships, creating a split-second opportunity to fly straight up.

Hu!

The trembling came once again!

Even if the people expected it, their legs still softened, and they almost fell.

The spaceship flew in a 'U' shape, flying from close to the ground right to

above the hovering ship fleet, dashing back in the opposite direction.

"Fire!"

The pilot fired immediately. The cannon shot out from the Sky Ring

spaceship. There was no need to aim—it was an attack fired at the dense

part of the formation.

Boom boom!

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Shield lit up on a few leading hovering ships as they were forced to stop for

a moment. The fleet behind bumped into them straight away, causing chain

reactions like dominos. The entire fleet in front became a mess, rolling

across the sky.

The hovering ships were not that fragile, so they did not crash. Han Xiao only stayed in this position for less than three seconds.

Before the

fleet could adjust, he made a sharp turn and escaped to the side. Its

movement was as smooth as silk.

On the other hand, the chasing fleet took a few seconds to adjust before

catching up. Although no battleship crashed, Han Xiao largely increased the

distance between them.

"Not bad." Han Xiao smiled and gave the pilot a thumbs up.

The pilot smiled brightly back at him, as vomit flew down right between his

teeth.

The difficulty of these few movements was very high. Yet, no one in the

ship showed any sign of being shocked. They did not even have the strength

to be surprised—their legs were shaking, and their heads were spinning.

These movements had successfully given all of his teammates a debuff.

Goa opened her mouth, forcing herself to try to give a few words of

compliment, but instead covered her mouth in an instant. The muscles in

her neck could be seen clearly to have moved up and down, only then did

she dare put her hand down.

Aroshia shook left and right, then sat down on the floor, unable to stand up.

She said with confusion, "What's happening to me?"

Herlous was breathing heavily, and he almost suffocated like a fish out of

water. The mercenaries around were all trembling. Luckily,

Herlous' body

was strong enough, so he could still hang on. He turned around and was

shocked to see that the players were very calm. "Are you people feeling

fine?"

The players smiled cheekily. As short as three seconds after Han Xiao took

over the spaceship, they realized the danger and immediately decreased

their physical senses to five percent. Therefore, although they had the

[Heavily Dizzy] status on their character, so they were still feeling very

refreshed!

"I thought we just entered a time and space tunnel."

"This piloting skill is absolutely horrifying!"

"I have seen Fast and Furious; this is fast and dizzy."

The players still had the strength to discuss what was happening.

With no time to be bothered about everyone's reactions, Han

Xiao started to

think of the plan.

"Just piloting the spaceship will not last us two days. The DarkStar fleet

will not make no changes. When they realize that the hovering ship fleet

cannot deal with us, they will definitely use more aggressive methods. I can

only play with the hovering ship fleet for two hours at most. After that, the

danger level is going to rise step by step."

This\_content is taken from

He planned ahead. After all, stalling for two days was not an easy

task at

all.

The others did not know DarkStar's motive, only Han Xiao did.

DarkStar

had come for the Secret Message Bead. Therefore, DarkStar would not be

willing to miss out on even one person.

A few plans flashed in his head before Han Xiao said, "It's not going to

work out like this. We can't stay on the surface. I have a plan..."
As soon as he said this, the expression on everyone's face became as tragic

as a prisoner on their way to the execution ground.

"Anyt... Anything you say. We trust you," Goa said.

Despite it clearly being an encouragement, there was no sound of joy in it at

all. Instead, her voice was trembling a little.

. . .

In the command hall of the DarkStar mothership, the image feedback from

the hovering ships was shown on the screen. The captain, Sarota, was

watching it with hands behind his back.

Ten minutes passed after the battle started. The spaceships of Blades and

Purple Gold were clearly struggling—only Han Xiao was doing slightly

better. This attracted Sarota's attention right away. He pointed at the screen

and asked, "Which mercenary group does this spaceship belong to?"

"The Sky Ring Army."

Sarota nodded and said, "They have quite a good pilot. Looks like we need

to spend more time. By the way, that Black Star is apparently on the Sky

Ring ship as well, isn't he?"

The last question was directed toward the corner of the hall.

In the corner, Ember was standing against the wall with a cold and

indifferent face. When he heard Han Xiao's name, his eyes swayed slightly.

He had a very strong impression of Han Xiao since his last defeat.

Oom!

At this time, the alarm suddenly sounded.

"Captain, space ripple detected. There are fleets jumping toward this

direction."

Sarota was not surprised at all. He brought up the detection image, showing

that a large battleship fleet was jumping toward this direction from far away

at both sides of the mothership. Both of them were in a guard formation.

DarkStar was in the middle.

The two fleets were the Border Guards Army of Holy Stone Civilization

and Black Raven Civilization. Their style of the battleships was very

different—one side was semi-circle shaped and thick, and the other was

streamlined and thin. The metal fortresses were very intimidating.

You can\_find the rest of this\_content on the platform.

As soon as the DarkStar mothership showed up, it was noticed by the

Border Guards Army. Holy Stone and Black Star immediately sent out a

fleet to make a field investigation. They did not act immediately once they

saw DarkStar. Instead, they stayed still and watched from afar.

"Is there a need to do anything?" an assistant asked.

"Send out a message. Tell them we are just passing by to settle our business.

and we will be leaving very soon. They will not attack us," Sarota said

calmly. He was not concerned at all like everything was under his control.

Chapter 395: The Battle of Pursuit

(1)

The ownership of this area has always been blurry. If DarkStar showed up

in the official territory of these two civilizations, they would definitely be

warned and evicted. However, due to the sensitivity of this area, the two

fleets did not make a move.

In the Holy Stone Border Guards Army, command ship of the third

formation, Stream Light.

The atmosphere was filled with nervousness. DarkStar's fearsome name

was well known, and they had quite the tension with Black Raven.

The

captain of the Third Formation, Shivate, said with a very serious face, "All

units on level one alert, hold the position."

At this time, Stream Light received a message from the DarkStar mothership. Sarota expressed their motive, emphasizing the fact that they

meant no offense to Holy Stone and Black Raven. They were just

carrying

out a pursuit, of which the targets were some mercenaries. Once the mission

was completed, they would leave immediately.

Shivate's tightened face relaxed a little, and without thinking, he said, "Tell

them that it's possible for Holy Stone to not interfere with DarkStar's

operation, but during this period, no suspicious action will be allowed. We

will be monitoring from here, and we hope they leave as soon as possible."

Shivate did not want a war to break out. There were many reasons. The first

would of course be, they did not want to mess with DarkStar. The entire

Shattered Star Ring knew the ugly history between DarkStar and Godora,

no one wanted to be part of it. The most horrifying characteristic of

DarkStar was that they were very stealthy. If they lost the battle, they would

still be able to run away, and the revenge afterward would make you suffer

a large loss. Secondly, if they fire, it might very likely cause Black Raven to

misunderstand, which would then turn into a scrimmage, leading to a

territory conflict. If he was determined guilty of deliberately starting a war

in the court martial, the punishment for that was very heavy.

Due to the territorial conflicts, there had always been some tension between

these two civilizations. The Holy Stone Civilization was an aristocracy

civilization, ruled by a royal family. Its political construction was very

complicated, and its efficiency in making decisions was mediocre.

They did

not like wars, and they were good at using diplomatic measures.

Be it

resources, connections, or power, Holy Stone Civilization was a little higher

than Black Raven Civilization. However, as Black Raven

Civilization had

limited resources in their early days, their developing process was very

tough, which made them have very strong minds and become collectivists.

Their efficiency in executing matters was very high. Even though their

nation was not as strong as Holy Stone, Holy Stone could not find a way to

get rid of them. If they started a large-scale war, both sides would definitely

suffer a huge loss. Therefore, both sides controlled the scale of their

conflicts.

Hence, DarkStar was not the only thing Shivate feared—he was more afraid

to cause a misunderstanding.

The most important reason that made Shivate decide to sit on the sidelines

was that DarkStar's target was just a bunch of mercenaries; they were just

passersby that did not matter at all. Unless it was the people from their own

civilization, these two armies would not make a huge move for it. Seeing

that Black Raven's army also held their position, Shivate knew that the

captain of Black Raven had made the same decision—sit on the sidelines

and monitor.

After all, to two civilizations, the life and death of these mercenaries were

not their concern. Like a droplet of water in the sea, it did not matter.

Therefore, the fleets that rushed there were watching silently.

Shivate

waved his hands and told his subordinate to check the escaping target on the

planet.

"I see, they're members of the three large mercenary armies.

Their

background is rather impressive. Sadly, they met DarkStar."

After reading the report, Shivate was a little bit surprised. He then shook his

head and said, "The sooner they're caught, the better. Then

DarkStar can

leave earlier..."

From the perspective of his own benefits, he would prefer the mercenaries

stop resisting.

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The same scene also played out in Black Raven Civilization's command

ship.

On the other side, the DarkStar mothership received the replies.

Sarota's

face remained the same as if it was exactly as he expected. He

knew both sides would not attack.

. . .

On another area of the planet, the Blades spaceship was being chased by

many hovering ships. They were struggling—its shield already had

countless holes, and its recovery speed could not match up to the speed of it

being destroyed. The rapid system alarms had the Blades mercenaries on edge.

"Faster, even faster," Porter mumbled with sweat all over his face. When

the situation was not looking good, he pushed away the original pilot to

control the spaceship himself. Yet, the situation did not become better.

Suddenly, a laser exploded on the shield.

Bang!

The shield blinked twice and disappeared. It had reached its limit. Everyone in the ship was stunned. Porter's face changed drastically.

Without a shield, the spaceship itself would not have any protection

anymore. If they were fired on once again, the spaceship would definitely

crash.

Boom!

Just as the hovering ship fleet was going to fire the next downpour of 'laser

rain, a chain of cannons hit the formation and caused a series of explosions.

This hovering ship did not have the time to react to it fully, and they hastily

dodged. The accuracy of the attacks all missed the Blades spaceship by

centimeters.

Faraway, the Sky Ring spaceship drove there at a high speed.

Behind him

was the pursuing fleet. It was Han Xiao, who had returned after a detour

and saved his teammates hastily. The pursuing fleet did not give him any

pressure at all, and they were going around and around chasing after him.

Therefore, Han Xiao tried to help his teammates as much as he could.

Foll\_ow current\_novel on

The existence of teammates could divert the enemy's firepower.

The longer

the teammates lasted, the less pressure he would face.

Han Xiao stopped the enemy for one moment before turning around and

escaping immediately. The shield of the Blades spaceship took the opportunity to recover. Porter almost collapsed, and his face was filled with

happiness. "That was close."

This time, Han Xiao sent a message to the other two ships. "Don't run

around randomly; you guys can't deal with them yourselves. I've sent you

the route. Even if you split up, don't stay too far from me. I'll provide

support from time to time."

"Why did you become the pilot?" Porter asked with surprise.

"We all feel safer with him being the pilot." Goa's voice came from the

side. Porter looked over, only to see all the mercenaries in the Sky Ring

spaceship were encased in hard ice from the waist down and firmly fixed

onto the ground like ice sculptures. It was Goa that used her spell to help

everyone to balance. Porter was shocked.

You don't look like you feel safe at all!

Porter's eyelids twitched.

Anyway, Han Xiao's suggestion was approved. Blades and Purple Gold's

teams agreed to follow Han Xiao's plan. They quickly changed their route

and maintained communication between them. As soon as they got into a

dire situation, Han Xiao would provide backup.

After helping them out in dire situations time after time, the members of the

other ships also realized how good Han Xiao's piloting skills were.

They

were immediately convinced.

Han Xiao stabilized the situation temporarily. Three ships brought hundreds

of hovering ships and ran around the planets. Half an hour passed, and the

hovering ship fleet had yet to capture them. They were in a stalemate.

On the DarkStar mothership, Sarota was getting impatient.

"More than three hundred hovering ships against just three ships.

Why have

we yet to capture them?"

The initial plan was to be done with the battle within ten minutes

then

retreat quickly after. Sarota was very unsatisfied with the current situation.

He stared at the Sky Ring spaceship on his screen with unhappiness in his eyes.

"It's all because the pilot of this ship is too good, that's why they're able to

stall this much time... Send out medium fighter ships. Surround this area

and cut off their escape route."

You can\_find the rest of this\_content on the platform.

As he gave the order, more fighter ships launched from the

mothership and flew toward the planet.

Inside the far away Stream Light, Shivate saw this and was a little surprised.

"Facing DarkStar's pursuit and being trapped on the planet, not only were

these three small spaceships stall for half an hour, they even forced

DarkStar to send in more support...

"But if this continues, it will drag on even longer..."

. . .

DarkStar

Through the porthole, the people in the Sky Ring spaceship saw more

fighter ships coming toward the surface from the DarkStar mothership.

"Sh\*t, DarkStar sent reinforcements!" the ex-pilot shouted.

"We knew they would sooner or later; don't sound so surprised."

Han Xiao glanced outside. He had expected this since long ago.

It's only half an hour, and they have already sent reinforcements.

DarkStar

changed their tactic quicker than I expected. In gaming terms, this means

that the pace of this mission's difficulty change is very fast. How am I going

to stall for two days like this? Han Xiao thought.

Although it looked like they were safe at the moment, they were still

dancing on blades. When DarkStar lost their patience completely, they

would not care about the resource expenses. They might surround them, and

by then, there would be nowhere to escape. After all, piloting skills had a

limit. He was only flying a small spaceship, not a galactic level Heroal

suit.

After some contemplation, Han Xiao decided to carry out the next part of

the plan. At this time, all three ships received the same message.

"This is Holy Stone Border Guards Army Third Formation. We

have

received your rescue signal and have arrived near the planet.

Please gather

at the coordinates we gave you; we will be there to receive you and provide

protection."

Together with this message were the coordinates, which were not far from

where they were. This message was like cardiotonic, instantly giving

everyone energy.

Foll\_ow new\_episo\_des on the platform.

"Holy Stone is willing to help. We're saved."

All the mercenaries in the three ships were overjoyed.

Han Xiao frowned and pondered, then said something that immediately

cooled everyone down, "I think this is quite strange..."

Chapter 396: The Battle of Pursuit

(2)

"If the Holy Stone Border Guards Army wants to receive us, they would

definitely be in conflict with DarkStar, but take a look up there.

The

DarkStar mothership is still floating there and not sending out any other

ships. Furthermore, this is a very sensitive border area, so it's impossible for

Holy Stone and Black Raven to take very long to come. This means that

they've made a certain deal with DarkStar. This is the edge of their border,

so the official authority here is blurry to begin with. They did not provide

any help even when the Silvers were kidnapped. Now they suddenly want

to help us? It doesn't feel trustworthy."

Han Xiao paused and said, "But of course, there's a chance that Holy Stone

did not compromise with DarkStar and really wants to protect us.

However... this is very unlikely."

He did not mention the most important reason—the mission requirement

stated that they had to last two days for just the lowest rating, but only half

an hour had passed. The reinforcements could not have arrived so soon. His

intuition told him that there was a problem with Holy Stone's

message.

Many people started to rethink, but they still hoped that they had gotten

lucky.

This time, there was a disagreement. Cerleni said in a low voice, "I choose

to believe this message. Holy Stone has no need to lie to us, and this might

be our only chance. I've decided to go to the pickup location.

What about

you?"

"I'm not going." Han Xiao shook his head without hesitation and then

looked over to Goa. Goa hesitated for a while, then nodded and agreed with

Han Xiao's decision. Although there were some mercenaries in the ship that

had other thoughts, seeing that Goa and Han Xiao had both decided, they

could only hold their thoughts in.

Porter hesitated for a moment, then rejected it as well, choosing to listen to

Han Xiao's advice.

Cerleni frowned and said, "Best of luck to you guys then."

The Purple Gold spaceship deviated from the route and headed toward the

pickup location, disappearing from sight shortly.

Han Xiao exhaled and said with a deep voice, "DarkStar's reinforcements

will arrive very soon, and our activity area will become smaller and smaller.

If we continue to stay on the surface, the situation will only become worse.

We have to go underground. The scanner has already recorded all the terrain

we have passed by, and there's quite a number of canyons and gaps in the

terrain. The space below the ground on this planet is very huge. Plus, it has

a complicated environment and many obstacles. Limited moving space will

give us some trouble, but it will give those chasing us trouble too.

Furthermore, the ground and block the direct detection from their

mothership, providing us another layer of protection..."

He had a rough plan of what to do next. The situation was not pleasant. The

reinforcement was just DarkStar's first step, they would soon be limiting

their movement areas, surrounding them, bombarding the area, and so on,

forcing them to change the route. Han Xiao pondered and pondered, and

eventually, he realized that in order for them to last two days, there was

only one workable way—spread out.

DarkStar's target was all the mercenaries, and two spaceships were only

two targets. However, if they spread out in an undetectable environment,

every mercenary would be a target. Although there would definitely be

unlucky ones that might be sacrificed, it would also make

DarkStar spend more time searching. After all, wishing to save everyone was not realistic. "Let's do as you say." Goa trusted Han Xiao a lot.

Han Xiao changed the direction of the spaceship and looked forward. Very

soon, a very long gap in earth appeared on the horizon, like the gray colored

earth opening its mouth, black as an abyss. From far away, it looked like

just a small gap, and only when they got closer did they realize that it was

tens of meters wide.

Hu!

The Sky Ring spaceship dived straight into the gap, and darkness filled their

vision.

Foll\_ow new\_episo\_des on the platform.

The detector sketched out the terrain in the darkness. About two to three

hundred meters down, numerous caves appeared on both sides.

Han Xiao

chose a cave and flew in. Inside was an underground space,

leading to

somewhere far away.

There was a very large space under the ground of this planet. It had

complex tunnels and was filled with storage stones. It had been undisturbed

for countless years, and now, its first guest had arrived.

The Blades spaceship did the same, and the hovering ship fleet followed

behind. Unavoidably, their speed decreased. Flying in this kind of environment required a very high reaction speed, plus space was limited, so

the formation of the hovering ships had to turn into a long snake

shape. Due

to space restraints, ninety percent of the fighter ships were

blocked by their

teammates in front and unable to fire. The attack faced by the

Blades and

Sky Ring spaceships significantly lessened.

The two ships flew underground just in time, escaping from

DarkStar's plan

to surround them on the surface.

The Purple Gold spaceship was still on the surface, and it arrived at the

pickup location.

Cerleni sent a communication request to the channel that they had received

the message from.

"Holy Stone Third Formation please come in. I have arrived at the pickup

location. Where are the receiving units?"

He repeated that again and again, but Holy Stone did not reply and kept

silent. His expression gradually changed, and he started to sweat all over.

The Purple Gold spaceship did not dare stop. It circled around the pickup

location like a headless fly. When the DarkStar reinforcements came from

all directions, Cerleni 's face turned pale. Only then did he realize that there

was no one there to pick them up. Black Star was right. He had lost the

gamble.

Boom boom boom!

Bullets rained down!

Not long after, the Purple Gold spaceship crashed onto the ground covered

in smoke. The gate opened, and the mercenaries inside sprinted out in all

directions. However, the DarkStar warriors landed from the fighter ships

hovering in the sky and surrounded them. There was nowhere to run.

The struggle of Cerleni and the others did not make any impact, so they

were captured easily and escorted onto the spaceship to be sent to the

mothership.

Everyone in the two ships that were descending underground saw what

happened to Purple Gold. Seeing that their friends that had once fought

alongside them were in such a dire situation, everyone was grieving.

If not for Han Xiao standing his ground, they would have ended up the

same way.

The mercenaries looked at Han Xiao with even more trust in their eyes.

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"I did tell them..." Han Xiao sighed.

Cerleni had been willing to take the gamble, and there was nothing Han

Xiao could do about it; he could not have taken over the control of Purple

Gold spaceship.

However, from a purely pros and cons perspective, this would give them

more time. With at least some result, DarkStar would be a little

less in a hurry.

. . .

Inside Stream Light, the scene of Purple Gold's spaceship crashing was

being played on the screen. Shivate shook his head and said,

"Too bad only

one ship was captured."

He was indeed the one that gave the order to send that message.

It was to

mislead the mercenaries and make it easier for DarkStar to capture them,

but it was not because he wanted to help DarkStar. In his eyes, these

mercenaries would definitely not be able to escape, and them getting

captured was just a matter of time. He only sped up this process.

The earlier

the mercenaries got captured, the sooner DarkStar would leave.

The armies of Holy Stone and Black Raven were holding their position, and

these mercenaries' meaningless struggle was wasting their time,

leaving

these two civilizations with no choice but to stay there and monitor the

situation. This increased their workload and brought along risks.

Shivate

just wanted DarkStar to go away as soon as possible. Giving out that order

was purely for his own benefit.

Furthermore, this could not be considered as interfering, so it was not really

counted as helping DarkStar. He had just sent a message—it was not a big

deal.

Regarding what plan DarkStar had, he simply did not care.

DarkStar had no

business with them. No matter what they were up to, Godora would be the

only one suffering from it. Holy Stone had no obligation to help Godora get

rid of their enemies, and Shivate did not want to stir up a mess. Sadly, not all the mercenaries were tricked.

"Commander, the target has gone underground. We're unable to see a direct

image."

"Continue to hold your position." Shivate shook his head.

They would not be able to see what was going on once these mercenaries

enter underground. All they could do was wait.

. . .

Inside the dark underground, beams of light flashed past. These were all

spaceships flying at a high speed.

Boom!

New novel\_chap\_ters are published here:

Lasers hit the stone walls and caused a partial rockfall. Quite a number of

stones landed on Sky Ring spaceship's shield before being shattered by the spaceships dashing through.

The pursuit underground lasted for a few hours. As space was limited,

larger sized fighter ships could not enter. DarkStar could only use the

hovering ships to hunt.

The underground space was filled with twists and turns, and it

was pitch

black. The blurry images from the detector were the only thing that they

could depend on to dodge the obstacles. Han Xiao was highly focused and

did not bump into anything, but the hovering ships behind him were

gradually making more and more mistakes. From time to time, fighter ships

crashed into the wall, the pillars, and other things. The contrast was very

obvious. The pursuing spaceships gradually lost sight of Han

Xiao's

backlight.

The Blades spaceship, on the other hand, was not as lucky. They were still

being chased tightly. Porter's skill was hard to look at, and the Blades

mercenaries almost wished to change ship.

Coincidentally, the Sky Ring people had the same thought.

"Can't see the hovering ships, there are only sounds. They're still chasing."

Han Xiao looked behind and said, "After chasing for a few hours, DarkStar's patience should be reaching its limit."

"We're... reaching... our... limits too..."

Herlous was almost prostrated, unable to finish a full sentence without

pauses.

He could be considered as being in a good state since at least he could talk.

Beside him, the Sky Ring mercenaries lay flat down on the ground like

dead pigs. Their eyes were out of focus, streams of white bubbles flew out

of their mouths, and their hands and legs were shaking. The ice used to fix

their legs had already shattered.

Just as Han Xiao was about to say something, the underground space started

to tremble violently!

Boom!

Sounds of explosions came from all directions!

"This is... a bombardment?" Goa said.

"Most likely, DarkStar has started to bombard the surface,

hoping to trigger

a chain reaction and cause the underground space to collapse,

forcing us

back to the surface. Like chasing mice out of their cave. Then, they'll

surround us on the surface, and we'll have nowhere to run," Han Xiao said

calmly. He had expected this to happen, so he could stay calm when it

happened.

"Is there nothing we can do?" Goa did not want to give up.

"We've stalled for many hours with the spaceship. It's already the limit."

You can\_find the rest of this\_content on the platform.

Han Xiao inhaled deeply and said slowly, "We have to abandon ship."

The people were shocked. The spaceship was the only thing that they could

depend on. If they abandoned the spaceship, it would mean they have lost

the mobility, and they would really become fish in a barrel.

Chapter 397: Arrival of the Fleet

The people immediately disagreed. How were they going to

escape without a spaceship?

"It was never possible to break through DarkStar's army in a spaceship,"

Han Xiao explained. "The chance to escape has always been close to zero.

We only had one choice from the start—stall for time and wait for backup.

Abandoning ship and losing ability is obviously disadvantageous, but it will

also decrease DarkStar's efficiency.

"Without spaceships, we will be fish in a barrel to DarkStar, and their

alertness will further be decreased. Once we spread out underground,

DarkStar will stop bombarding the surface. Because without protection

from the spaceship, we will be buried alive if the underground space

collapses. What they want is the... ahem, what they want is to capture us

alive. Therefore, they'll most probably use the hovering ships and send out

troops to search slowly."

This was a risky plan, and the mercenaries exchanged nervous looks.

Although the plan did make sense, the risk of abandoning the spaceship

made them hesitant.

"Are you absolutely confident about this?" Goa could not help but voice her doubt.

"What do you think?" Han Xiao shook his head. How could he

be one

hundred percent confident in this kind of situation? If he was, it would not

be called a risky plan.

Staying in the spaceships looked safe, but their chances would be almost

negligible. Abandoning the spaceships looked desperate, but it could

squeeze out more time and stall them longer.

The bombardment continued, and time waited for no man. Goa and Porter

discussed a little, then finally clenched their teeth and agreed with carrying

out the plan to abandon the spaceships.

"So," Goa asked, "what is the plan?"

"The plan is..." Han Xiao explained in detail.

• • •

## Boom!

In the sky, dozens of DarkStar bombardment fleets were in a neat formation, dropping bombs down on the surface. Mushroom clouds rose up

one after another. Heated wind from the explosions stirred up dust and sand

all over the sky, creating countless craters filled with cracks like spider nets.

In the command room of the DarkStar mothership, Sarota was staring at the

image of the surface, and his fingers were tapping the table continuously.

His impatience was clearly expressed through these small movements.

Since the spaceships escaped underground, a few hours had passed, and

they still had yet to make any progress. His patience had run out, so he

decided to send out bombardment ships to destroy the planet surface,

causing the underground space to collapse and forcing the targets to get out

of the twisted narrow underground and come back to the open surface.

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He also sent out many medium intercepting ships to form encirclements. As

soon as the mercenaries' spaceships appeared on the surface,

there would

be no more chasing and running—they would be able to capture the

spaceships immediately.

"Commander, the interrogation is completed. These captured mercenaries

have never seen the Secret Message Bead before. We searched their clothes

and inside their bodies as well, and they don't have it," an officer said.

These captives were Cerleni and the others.

"At least the range is smaller." Sarota nodded.

Therefore, the last two ships were the most suspicious.

At this time, the Sky Ring spaceship appeared on the image from the

hovering ship fleet. The hovering ships had almost lost them, but now, they

were catching up. The Sky Ring spaceship's speed had become much

slower, and it even bumped into walls from time to time.

Bang!

Lasers hit the spaceship's shield. It was as if the Sky Ring

spaceship had

looked very

changed its pilot. There were no more dazzling dodges, and it

clumsy.

Almost all attacks landed on the target.

The shield shattered in no time.

Boom!

Lasers fired at the tail of the spaceship, unleashing a trail of

flames and

smoke!

Sky Ring spaceship's accelerator broke and lost its power. It glided forward

and shattered about a dozen stone pillars before crashing into the stone wall,

stirring up thick smoke.

The hovering ships surrounded the spaceship, but the Sky Ring spaceship

was silent. A few units of DarkStar warriors jumped out of the hovering

ships and blasted the gate open with their guns, only to see that there was

only darkness inside the spaceship. The DarkStar warriors rushed in, but

there was no one inside. A warrior headed to the pilot seat and checked

system, then quickly reported the situation to their superior.

"Report. There's no one in the spaceship. It was the spaceship system's

autopilot."

Sarota slammed his hands heavily on the table, and with rage in his eyes, he

said, "They've abandoned ship!"

On the other side, the Blades spaceship did the same and jumped

out of the

spaceship in different batches. As they did not get out of sight of the

enemies like Han Xiao, the image of them jumping out was directly seen by

the chasing ships. However, the mercenaries did not care about that. They

landed and spread out on their own.

The source of this\_chapter;

"Abandon ship... Seems like it's to stall for more time. Tsk, they still have

hope for reinforcements." Sarota sneered. "They have some guts to gamble

like this..."

Then, he loudly ordered, "Stop the bombardment. Hovering ships, split up

and search for vital signs. Send out ground troops to continue to pursue."

Sarota looked to the side and said, "Ember, you'll lead the ground troops."

Ember nodded and left the command room.

Hundreds of egg-shaped airdrop cabins were ejected from the mothership,

falling toward the ground. Inside were all DarkStar Supers, including

Ember.

Sarota could see through Han Xiao's plan, but he still did as Han Xiao

expected because DarkStar's target was indeed to capture everyone alive.

From how he saw it, this was what the mercenaries were gambling on—

there was nothing that he could do about it.

The target did not have a spaceship anymore, so Sarota was not worried. If

they were hunters chasing after prey earlier, now they were just catching

them in a ring—there was no need to worry about anyone escaping.

. . .

This time, in a hard-to-find corner underground, a silver-white metal sphere

was parked quietly. Inside the metal sphere was a sophisticated cockpit,

where Han Xiao and a few others were.

This was a transporting tool that Han Xiao had been building—[Portable Sphere Fortress].

On the outside, it was just a metal sphere, but its structure inside was

complicated. It could travel in both sea and land as well as air.

The sphere

was made up of many layers. The most outside silver layer were both the

armor and the mobility device to move on land, as the sphere was suitable

for rolling movements and was able to change direction and speed easily.

When it rolled, only the outside layer would move. The inside pilot cabin

had an individual structure and was separated from the outside layer, so it

would not spin as well. The real-time image of the outside was played on

the large curve inside the pilot cabin.

When traveling through complex terrain, four Heroal pedipalps could

be extended out of its body for crawling purposes. Furthermore, the sphere

was also equipped with thrusters, balance wings, and turbines. It could fly

at relatively low heights and move in the oceans. It was a multifunctional

transport tool.

In his previous life, the players had called this the 'Car Ball'. Han Xiao had

built it while he was on Floating Dragon Island. He had placed it in the

spaceship, and now that they abandoned the spaceship, it was time to use it.

The plan was to spread out, so the ones in the Car Ball at this time was only

Herlous, Aroshia, the three brothers of Volga, Frenzied Sword, and Maple

Moon.

"The bombardment has stopped." Han Xiao was sitting at the controlling

seat, his eyes sparkled.

The underground terrain did not tremble anymore, which meant that

DarkStar had stopped the bombardment as expected, which made him feel

relieved. From now on, DarkStar will send out ground troops to carry out

the search and start a game of cat and mouse. The mercenaries have all

spread out, so there'll definitely be some people that'll get caught.

Hope we

can stall for longer...

Updated\_at

The Car Ball rolled backward and disappeared in the dark and

twisted

underground tunnel.

Darkness was mercenaries cover, which made the search more difficult.

There were two to three hundred people in the two spaceships.

Now that

they had all spread out, the number of targets that DarkStar had to capture

changed from two to hundreds. The hovering ships split up as well, slowly

searching every corner with their cone-shaped blue searchlights.

Not long after, the ground troops led by Ember arrived underground and

started their thorough search. The sound of footsteps echoed in the

underground space.

The situation went from spaceship pursuit to time-consuming search. It

seemed to be less heated, but the nervousness in the hearts of mercenaries

kept growing as they were in the constant alert of not knowing when they

would meet enemies in the endless darkness.

In the beginning, DarkStar captured some mercenaries very quickly.

However, as time went on, the mercenaries became more spread out, and

their capture efficiency rapidly decreased.

Often, DarkStar had to take a very long time only to find one or two

mercenaries. The mercenaries had all sorts of abilities, and some were very good at hiding.

. . .

Time trickled by.

In Stream Light, Shivate was rather annoyed. DarkStar had stayed for one

day now, and they had yet to leave. He had sent several warnings, but

DarkStar had told him that because the mercenaries had abandoned their

spaceships, it would not take too long to capture everyone.

Shivate had no

choice but to continue waiting despite his impatience.

Oom!

The alarm suddenly rang. The radar showed that, not far away, a new fleet

was jumping toward this direction, and its numbers were growing rapidly.

"Whose forces are these?" Shivate's face changed.

Through the porthole, he saw that in the space behind the

DarkStar

mothership, streams of light dashed across and stopped, showing their true

identity.

It was an enormous fleet with mixed styles like it was made up of battleships from many different races. It looked like a motley army, but

when they saw the symbols on these battleships, the faces of the Holy Stone

and Black Raven commanders immediately turned grave.

This was a fleet temporarily gathered by Sky Ring, Blades, and Purple

Gold. Other than the three large mercenary groups, there were also dozens

of mercenary group partners. Hundreds of all kinds of battleships faced the

DarkStar mothership.

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"Do these large armies really have to make such a huge scene?"
Shivate

was surprised.

If these mercenaries and DarkStar could not come to an agreement, they

would definitely start fighting. By then, it would be very difficult for Holy

Stone and Black Raven to not be affected.

Shivate's expression became terrible. If these mercenaries had been

captured earlier, such a troublesome situation would never have happened.

Chapter 398: Conflict and

Attention

The DarkStar mothership turned around slowly. Hundreds of frigates flew

out and formed a combat formation around the mothership, confronting the mercenary alliance fleet.

The alliance fleet sent out a message, demanding DarkStar to stop capturing

the mercenaries immediately, or they would use force to settle the problem.

The three large armies were very tough in their stance. As they did not have

any territory to protect like civilizations, they were not afraid of revenge.

If you mess with our people, we will mess you up, no matter who. Sarota was a little moved. He had thought that mercenaries were extremely

divided, and he had never thought that capturing a small group of

mercenaries would attract an entire mercenary fleet.

Sarota has to admit he had underestimated the mercenary industry.

The alliance fleet gave them only ten minutes, demanding DarkStar

withdraw all their forces immediately, or they would start attacking.

Sarota's relaxed mindset was nowhere to be found, and his face was grave.

Of course, he was not afraid of the alliance fleet since the

DarkStar

mothership was a moving space station base and was very well equipped.

However, if a direct conflict broke out, the damage would exceed the

forecast of this operation.

DarkStar was not dragged down by honor or name, so even if they retreated

and were deemed as being afraid of the mercenaries, it would not affect

them at all. What Sarota was considering at this time was another question

—was it worth fighting a fleet head-on for the Secret Message Bead? Or

could they give up this opportunity and strike again in the future? Would

there ever be an opportunity as good as this?

After some contemplation, Sarota's came to the conclusion that there would

never be such a good opportunity again.

Letting these mercenaries return to their organizations would mean that

their search range will expand. If these mercenaries split up, it

would be

very troublesome to find them again.

And these were just the smaller problems.

Letting these people back to their organizations might very well lead to

accidents like the bead being given to someone else without DarkStar's

knowledge or the bead being lost on some godforsaken rock due to the

person dying during a mission. There were too many possibilities.

But now,

all the mercenaries that might have come into contact with the bead were

right there.

Certainly, there would never be a better opportunity than this.

This time, Shivate gave a serious announcement to the alliance fleet and the

DarkStar mothership.

"On behalf of the Holy Stone Border Guards Army, I warn you, if you start

a battle here, we will see it as a provocation. We will very likely see you as

enemies and interfere with the conflict."

The announcement was clearly very effective as soon as it was sent out. The

alliance fleet opened fire at the DarkStar mothership straight away without

saying anything.

Colorful lights exploded in the dark space. The battleship formations

carried out all kinds of tactics, and lasers were fired at each other nonstop.

The mercenary fleet and the DarkStar fleet started to battle.

You can\_find the rest of this\_content on the platform.

Shivate's face turned black, and he was furious. They had completely

ignored what he said!

"Commander, what do we do now? Which side do we help?"

"Help your ass, we watch!" Shivate clenched his teeth.

One side was a chaotic, evil, and very vengeful terrorist organization—

another was a chaotic, neutral, and lawless mercenaries. Helping either side

was a waste of military power. Furthermore, he did not dare move his fleet.

If they moved, who knew how Black Raven would react?

They might as well watch the mercenaries and DarkStar bite each other.

And about the warning earlier... just let it be ignored.

Outside the chaotic battlefield, Holy Stone and Black Raven did not

interfere. However, they did not do nothing at all. Their fleet spread out

sideways and formed a line to surround the battlefield,

preventing it from

expanding further.

Allowing them to fight outside their border was already their bottom line. If

DarkStar or the mercenaries went over it, the fleets of the two large

civilizations would fire without hesitation.

• • •

The battle started in an instant!

In terms of raw power, the DarkStar mothership was stronger than this

temporarily gathered fleet. The alliance fleet was not planning to fight

head-on either, so they sent out small spaceships wanting to go around the

battlefield and fly to the planet to pick up Han Xiao and the other mercenaries. However, Sarota noticed this and ordered a fleet to intercept

them. Thus, they were in a stalemate.

The mercenaries on the planet were the key to determining the result of the

battle. Whether they were saved or captured, as soon as either happened, the

battle would end immediately.

In Sarota's eyes, Han Xiao's plan to abandon ship was initially digging their

own graves and a meaningless struggle. However, the situation had

changed, and the meaningless stalling had become the key.

Abandoning

ship had given them more time, and every second that they earned with that.

DarkStar was suffering from more damage.

Battle damage reports came one after another, and the coldness in Sarota's

eyes became ever deeper.

Initially, it had been a simple mission that could be completed easily, but

now, it had become so troublesome and tough. The performance of that Sky

Ring spaceship was the start of all the changes. If not for that pilot who

could stall for so long, he would have captured them and left long ago.

They would never have met the mercenary alliance fleet. Sarota was deeply

regretful for missing that opportunity.

The fleets fired at each other, and the energy reaction from the attacks was

as conspicuous as a Fixed Star as seen from the detectors. From afar, the

light of the explosions was as bright as the stars.

The spaceships passing by noticed the abnormality there even from afar.

The battle attracted many spaceships as spectators, and the scene was

quickly recorded.

In the galactical generation, the increase in communication level also made

the news more real-time. The distance was not a problem. Not long after,

the battle between DarkStar and the mercenaries spread out across

numerous Star Clusters.

You can\_find the rest of this\_content on the platform.

After watching for more than half a day, Shivate received an unexpected

communication request.

Buzz!

A pureblood Godoran's face appeared on the screen and said with a serious

face, "I'm the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Godoran Civilization,

Plenipotentiary Representative of Godoran Civilization. I hope the Holy

Stone Civilization can interfere with the battle immediately and attack

DarkStar."

Shivate's face turned formal and said, 'This is our local affair.

You have no

right to interfere."

"DarkStar is an evil force that has spilled innocent blood in many places.

They're the common enemy of civilizations. Watching them carry out their

crimes is a very irresponsible act!" The Godoran sounded very justified.

"Sorry, I only listen to the marshal's orders." Shivate held his ground

firmly. "I'll only interfere with the battle if the marshal gives me

order. If you have questions, you can send a request to the

Foreign Affairs

Department."

Actually, as the commander of Formation Three, Shivate could take care of

matters of this scale himself, but he still chose to use the marshal's name. It

was obviously an excuse.

He knew very well what Godora was thinking—DarkStar was Godora's

mortal enemy, and they had made a rare appearance, so Godora wanted

Holy Stone to help them to fight DarkStar. However, Holy Stone and

Godora were not strategic allies, so they had no obligation to help.

Furthermore, it was a sensitive political issue. As one of the

commanders of

the Border Guards Army, Shivate was definitely not going to follow the

requests of another civilization.

The Godorans had no choice but to contact the higher-ups of the Holy Stone

Civilization. However, royalty ruled civilizations such as Holy Stone were

best at pushing around responsibilities. They were firm on the grounds of

not giving out any orders. Even when the Godorans expressed that if they

let DarkStar get away, they would publicly condemn Holy Stone during the

Shattered Star Ring Diplomatic Council, Holy Stone was still beating about

the bush. Their position was very clear—they did not want to mess with

DarkStar.

The Godoran Civilization was just one of the forces that had their attention

on this matter. As DarkStar rarely appeared, more and more forces and

organizations had their eyes on it, watching the center of the storm from far away.

. . .

Whoosh!

In the dark underground, Thermo-Electrical Incisor Gloves sliced through a

DarkStar warrior's chest like slicing through a piece of tofu, easily taking that person's life.

Han Xiao pulled his hand away, and the DarkStar warrior fell down. On the

ground were the corpses of a DarkStar search team.

"Let's go quickly. Their reinforcements will arrive very soon."

Herlous kept

his voice down.

The Car Ball was parked at the side. Han Xiao jumped back in,

controlled

the Car Ball, and rolled away. He opened the interface, and the mission

information had already changed.

Foll\_ow new\_episo\_des on the platform.

– [Escape] Mission Rating: C

Advertisement

Lasting two days would grant a rating of D. Every twelve hours onward, the

rating would go up by one grade. They had already lasted two and a half

days. The mission was already completed. At this time, more than half of

the mercenaries had already been captured, and very few were still running.

This meant that the mercenary alliance fleet and DarkStar had been firing at

each other for more than one day.

If either Holy Stone or Black Raven interfered, DarkStar would have

retreated, and the mercenaries would have been saved. However, the two

civilizations were only watching, not helping either side, which led to the

stalemate. The alliance fleet could not pick up the mercenaries.

"Putting our hopes on these mercenaries was not a good idea indeed..."

Han Xiao shook his head. Luckily, he had already contacted Ames and

requested help as another layer of insurance. The thing was, she

was not

very dependable either, so he did not know when she would be free to

come.

If the players were caught, their mission would fail. Some of them were

very cheeky and wanted to go offline to avoid being caught, but when they

came online again, they realized that the mission had failed straight away.

However, if the players were captured by DarkStar, it would add on quite an

amount of trouble. Han Xiao gave out a new mission through the faction

interface. As long as they were not captured, they would receive a bonus

reward. This way, even if they went offline and failed [Escape], they could

still go offline if they are almost caught, and at least they would still have

some reward.

Luckily, no players had been caught yet. This had made the DarkStar search

team very frustrated, as the prey disappeared without a trace just as they

were almost captured. The DarkStar search teams were at a loss and very

confused.

Boom!

At this time, the tunnel ahead suddenly collapsed. The Car Ball made a

sudden stop. A new group of pursuers walked out of the hole from the wall,

and the leader was Ember.

"Found you. I won't be as careless as the last time."

Ember was expressionless. He raised his Esper power to the maximum, and

his battle intent soared. His eyes had been fixed on Han Xiao for a very

long time, and now, he had finally caught up.

Han Xiao faced changed a little.

"Him again, this is not good..."

The Great Hero Han himself was not afraid of Ember—they would not

be able to kill each other if they started a fight. However, Ember's power

was too destructive to his friends around him. Herlous was already

considered to be quite strong, but if he faced Ember, he would be turned

into dust in an instant.

That Esper power was too powerful, and it could even be called a 'Walking

Human Dust Maker<sup>3</sup>.

"That guy is very dangerous, retreat!"

You can\_find the rest of this\_content on the platform.

Han Xiao did not have any desire to stay. He pulled the joystick, and the

Car Ball crashed through the wall on the side as they retreated.

Chapter 399: Broken Arm and

Awakening

The last time that they met, Ember got a taste of defeat from Han Xiao. He

had met quite a number of Heros, but Black Star was the first Hero that could use his own body to drag the battle without using machinery. Plus, Han Xiao was like a fated enemy of his power. Ember had

thought about how to deal with Han Xiao, and he had come up with some

plans. Thus, he had been waiting to meet Han Xiao again.

Now they had finally intercepted Han Xiao. Seeing the Car Ball turn to run

away, Ember immediately activated his power.

Hum!

The walls in all directions started to move as if they were alive. A large

amount of black and gray particles gushed out like a black cloud, winding

around the Car Ball, turning into all sorts of shapes such as spears and

blades, creating sparkles on the moving armor of the Car Ball.

The underground space was narrow and twisted. The Car Ball crashed

through the walls like a mole digging a tunnel. Ember and the others chased

behind. The Car Ball was very fast, so even though grade B Supers were

not slow, the distance between them was still getting longer.

"Call the search team and follow my position. There's an important target

here driving some kind of sphere-shaped transport tool. It's very fast, but I

will slow it down as much as I can."

Although Ember really wanted to fight with Han Xiao, the training that he

had gone through made him always put the mission first. The hovering ship

fleet nearby received the message and came from all directions.

The range of Ember's power was limited. The Car Ball was going

to leave

his sights. Ember's energy turned into fuel for his power—the ground in

front of the Car Ball bulged and turned into rocks, forming obstacles.

Bang bang bang!

The Car Ball crushed everything in its way, breaking through fang-shaped

pillars one after another. Its thick, heavy armor was not damaged, but its

speed unavoidably decreased. The curved surface inside the sphere was all

made of screens, displaying the image outside. Han Xiao could see in all

directions from sitting in the driver's seat, so he quickly pressed on the

control panel and activated the Car Ball's other functions.

With the sound of Heroal parts moving, the front, back, left, and right

side of the armor suddenly opened. A Hero pedipalp slid out from each

of the openings and pressed onto the ground, the Car Ball jumped up like a

flea and skipped over the dangerous obstacles. Then, four anti-gravitational

thrusters appeared at the bottom of the Car Ball, pushing the Car Ball

forward almost a hundred meters before it landed on the ground.

This

process was repeated again and again—the Car Ball was not affected by the

terrain at all. Ember was getting further and further away.

"Tsk. The search team will definitely surround us. We have to think of a way to get rid of the enemies. Luckily, there's a gap between earth near

here. We can..."

As he was saying, Han Xiao suddenly realized that something was wrong.

He turned around and looked at everyone else. All of their faces were filled

with veins like they were struggling with all their lives, and they were

unable to move.

"Stop, or they die."

In the distance, Ember was reaching out his hand with a cold face.

Han

Xiao was the only one who he could not do anything about, but in the case

of the other people inside the Car Ball, he could use his power on them

through the armor.

Han Xiao frowned a little. This was what he was most worried about. The

two players were not a concern. Even if they died one hundred times, he

would not even blink. But Herlous, Aroshia, and the others were different:

they were his weakness when facing Ember. Han Xiao was definitely not

going to stop, and he would not hesitate on this matter. He was just worried

about these two characters that he had spent so much effort to recruit.

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"Don't... Don't care about us, he won't kill anyone. We can't... can't be the

reason to cause our entire team's... destruction!"

The energy on Herlous' body was flickering. He was resisting the Esper

power from Ember, and even with all his might, he could only speak while

stuttering. His face was ferocious, and every word sounded like he was

spending all his energy on it. Through the time that they spent together,

Herlous had gained some knowledge of Han Xiao. He knew very clearly

that Han Xiao would not hesitate on something like this and would be able

to make choices despite the enemy's threatening, so he did not have to

worry. He only spoke so that Han Xiao would not have any psychological

burden.

"Hold on, there's a gap in front. We can get rid of the enemies once we fly

down." Han Xiao nodded and increased the Car Ball's speed. He did not

waste any words.

Seeing that the Car Ball was about to leave his power range,

Ember's eyes

turned colder, and he clenched his fists.

The higher ups did not allow killing, but as long as the target was alive, it

would not matter how badly hurt they were.

"Argh!"

Herlous inhaled deeply with the scream stuck in his throat. His left hand

changed shape noticeably, then slowly turned into dust and

splashed on the

floor. There was no blood and no metallic smell. The

decomposition was

spreading from his hand toward his shoulder!

"Ember..." A flash of rage appeared in Han Xiao's eyes, but he had no time

to look at Herlous' injury. The most important thing at the time was to get

out of Ember's power range, and only then would the damage not continue

to grow.

Sand fog flew out of Aroshia's body, and she was being decomposed as

well. She looked down at her body as confusion flashed through her eyes.

Most normal life forms would be curious about what came after death, but

they would only have one life, and when they discovered the answer to that

question, it would also mean that they had left the world of the living.

Aroshia, on the other hand, had countless opportunities to try it, so death

was not unknown or mysterious to her. She could see her own 'ending'—a

new life. She had been through it countless times, and she knew that she

would not die. However, a new life meant that her memories would be reset

again. She did not have any memory of what happened after death, and she

could not remember anything about what happened before she died. She

could not help but think of Han Xiao's words.

If she did not have the memories of her past life, even if she received a new

life, would she still be who she was now? Would that be just another form

of death?

"So, I can die after all..." Aroshia mumbled. Suddenly, a sense of trepidation was born in her heart.

When this thought appeared, a change happened within her body. Hum!

The feeling of her body being controlled suddenly disappeared.

Aroshia

realized that she could move now. The world in her eyes was different—it

seemed brighter, and many small dots of light were swimming in the air like

fish. Her senses became completely different from just a moment earlier.

Then, she realized that she was floating, and she saw the shocked expression on the people beside her.

"What happened to me..."

This\_content is taken from

Aroshia looked down at her body. It was not a physical body anymore but a

half transparent luminous body with a dim glow of bluish gold.

Light

particles floated around her. Her senses were not her body and

anymore—it was like she was no longer limited by a physical form. With a

thought, she suddenly turned into a sphere-shaped ball of light.

"This... This is..." Maple Moon was shocked.

"Energy life." Han Xiao glanced over. He was shocked as well.

The

characteristics that Aroshia was showing now were the characteristics of

energy lifeforms. Her physical structure changed, so of course,

she was not

controlled by Ember anymore. He did not have the time to think of the

reason for this to happen, but a thought appeared in his mind.

"Try to touch the energy core."

Aroshia did as Han Xiao said. A thin tentacle extended out of the ball of

light, passed through the cockpit wall, and came into contact with the

energy core. The light particles in her body flew into the core through the

tentacle.

Buzz!

With the sound of electric currents, sparks appeared on the engine, and the

output of the Car Ball increased tremendously and went into overload mode

immediately!

The Car Ball's speed increased instantly, it jumped right into the gap in

front and finally got out of Ember's power range. Herlous' decomposition

progress stopped at his left shoulder. He was covered in sweat, holding on

to his hollow left shoulder, and his face was filled with agony.

Other than

him, the Volga brothers suffered some damage too. However,

Ember's main

target was Herlous, who had the strongest resistance, so they were still in a

relatively good state—none of them were maimed.

Ember and the others stopped at the edge of the gap and watched as the Car

Ball extended its balance wings and flew away at a high speed.

Ember failed twice on the same target. He yelled at the communicator, "Is

the search team here yet? Target has disappeared, track it immediately."

However, the reply was very unexpected.

"One minute ago, the mothership sent out a new order. Give up this

mission. Everyone, return to the mothership and retreat immediately!" The

other side of the communicator sounded very anxious.

Ember's pupils constricted in disbelief.

How could it be an order to retreat?

The Secret Message Bead was very important to DarkStar. Now that they

were not far from succeeding, unless there was an accident, it was impossible for them to give up halfway. And this accident was definitely

something that the mothership could not deal with!

The order was not to be disobeyed. Even though Ember was very unhappy,

he could only watch Han Xiao and the others get away while he turned

around and retreated.

New novel\_chap\_ters are published here:

What had happened above?

. . .

Fifteen minutes earlier...

"This is Shattered Star Ring Express News. I'm the frontline reporter,

Brimner, reporting live on the battle near Planet 122 of Star Zone 4, Fawn

Galaxy."

A news spaceship stopped not far from the battlefield, reporting the

situation live at the scene after hearing about it.

Brimner was the reporter hosting this live news. The news was playing on

the Shattered Star Ring Current Affairs Channel, reporting live on things

happening around the area to all the audiences in the Star Field.

People and

organizations of countless Galaxies and Star Zones were paying attention to

this news broadcast.

"It is known that Fawn-122 planet is located at the border crossing of Holy

Stone Civilization and Black Raven Civilization. A special battle has

happened in this sensitive area. As everyone can see, the battle is between

DarkStar and mercenaries. As reflected by witnesses, the battle has lasted

for almost two days now. The cause of this is that DarkStar wanted to

capture some mercenaries, and these mercenaries happened to belong to

Sky Ring, Blades, and Purple Gold, the three very well-known mercenary

armies. Hence, a conflict broke out. The situation now is, Holy Stone and

Black Raven's armies are monitoring on the sidelines, while

DarkStar and

the mercenaries are in a stalemate. On the planet, the

mercenaries who are

being chased are unbelievably still running.

"According to our knowledge, the Godoran Civilization far away in the

Garton Galaxy is already forming an army. DarkStar is a violence group

acting against Godora, so they are naturally enemies. As DarkStar rarely

appears and is very stealthy, it is very hard for Godora to trace them. Now

that DarkStar has appeared publicly, Godora wants to hold onto this

opportunity..."

As Brimner was reporting, a large object appeared on the edge of the image,

flying toward the battlefield.

"Wait, there seems to be a change to the situation. A new force has

appeared. That's... Er, Floating Dragon Island?"

Her eyes widened in shock.

The interest of countless spectators in Shattered Star Ring who were

watching the news rose immediately. Floating Dragon was

Dragon

Emperor' Ames' territory—almost everyone in Shattered Star Ring knew

that.

They were very curious. Why was Floating Dragon there?

Brimner paused and thought of a logical explanation.

"Our crew has just checked Floating Dragon's route—it just so happens that

it came to Fawn Galaxy Star Zone 4. Apparently, it's just passing by out of

coincidence. Holy Stone and Black Raven's fleets are surrounding

the

battlefield. I believe after some communication, Floating Dragon will take a

detour. This should not have any impact on the situation..."

Before she finished her sentence, Floating Dragon bumped straight into the

Holy Stone fleet at the edge of the battlefield, without any intention to

change course at all.

Foll\_ow new\_episo\_des on the platform.

Chapter 400: The Arrival of

Dragon Emperor!

Holy Stone and Black Raven's fleets surrounded half of the battlefield each.

They were on level one alert. Countless cannons were aimed at both sides

of the battle. Shivate stared at the battle and was on high alert all along.

A third-party conflict happening at the border had always been difficult to

deal with, as guarding the border was the responsibility of the Guard Army.

Firstly, interfering blindly would not grant any merit. As it would not be

defending against an enemy, there would be no reward for winning, no

compensation for damages, and very severe consequences if they lost.

Hence, taking part in the battle was the worst choice. Shivate believed that,

if his fleet suffered damage due to his decision, the royalties of his political

opposition would definitely use him as an example to attack the

political

faction that he was in. As the Holy Stone was aristocratic with many

factions, most of the army were royalties as well. Of course, there would be

political opposition paying attention to what he was doing.

Luckily, the attacks from the DarkStar mothership and the alliance fleet

were controlled within the area. As long as the situation did not escalate

further, Shivate would be thankful.

At this time, a subordinate said in a hurry, "Commander, a large object is

approaching the battlefield. Stream Light is on its route, please give the

order!"

Shivate was shocked. He looked at the screen. A large object was approaching at a very high speed, and its energy reaction was through the

roof. He adjusted the angle of the porthole and looked over, then he saw an

ellipse-shaped golden object was shining in space, gradually approaching.

Its size was dozens of times larger than a fleet. It was indeed Floating

Dragon Island with its shield activated.

"That's Floating Dragon Island. Is it passing by?" Shivate was surprised.

Seeing the Floating Dragon Island was still approaching and would crash

onto his fleet soon, Shivate immediately sent out a message to Floating

Dragon Island. "Attention Floating Dragon, attention Floating

Dragon. I am

around."

Holy Stone Border Guards Army Third Formation Commander Shivate. A

battle is underway ahead, and we have locked down this area, please go

Just one second later, Stream Light received a reply. Jenny's cold voice

sounded, and she only said two words. "Give way."

A tint of rage appeared on Shivate's face. This was his first time meeting

such an outrageous passerby. Not only did they not want to go around, they

even wanted the entire fleet to move away. Regardless, Floating Dragon had

the right to be this way, and Shivate did not dare mess with them.

Floating Dragon did not seem like it would stop at all. It approached in a

straight line and would soon bump into the Holy Stone fleet formation.

Shivate's face was terrible as he clenched his teeth and gave the order. "All

units spread out. Terminate the lockdown and give way to them!"

The Holy Stone spread out hastily and created a path. Floating Dragon

passed through the formation and casually entered the battlefield.

This was

included in the news image, and Brimner's always smooth tone was stuck.

She was stunned for a while before saying slowly, "Err... As everyone can

see, Hol— Holy Stone fleet gave way. It seems like the

negotiation failed.

Apparently, Floating Dragon does not care about the battle in front of them.

We don't know what will happen next..."

The viewers were awed by how dominant Floating Dragon was,

but no one

felt that Floating Dragon came just to interfere.

At this time, the alliance fleet still could not break through

DarkStar's

defenses. They contacted the mercenaries who were being chased,

but they

could not pick them up. They could only watch as the

communication

channels became silent one after another. Their organization

members were

being caught right in front of them, and the rage from that was expressed

directly in the strength of the alliance fleet's attacks. From just wanting to

go around DarkStar at the start to now being on a killing spree, it was

getting bloodier over time.

Visit for a better\_reading experience Boom!

A part of the planet surface suddenly bulged. The ground cracked open, and

a large ice pillar burrowed out and rose from the ground. Goa and her

teammates came back to the surface on the ice pillar. Her white blue mage

robe was covered in dust and holes, and her face looked exhausted. She had

been chased by the troops till she had nowhere to run, so she

channeled her

power and released it on this one hit to finally return to the surface. Looking

up, the astonishing scenery reflected in her clear, blue eyes.

In the dark blue, almost black outer space, countless fleets were fighting.

Countless lasers and cannons were as bright as stars. On the lower heights,

it was the DarkStar fleet that was going in circles and surrounding the area.

They were rushing toward her, stirring up dust on their way and twisting the

atmosphere with the heat from their thrusters.

"There's... still no one to pick us up?"

It was like all the energy was being pulled out of Goa's body. She slowly

kneeled down, and her magic staff fell from her white hands onto the

ground. She looked up at, watching the powerless alliance fleet who were

supposed to be their saviors.

The color of desperation painted her pupils.

The three large armies were what made them struggle and resist because

they knew that there would be fleets coming to the rescue.

Everyone had

gotten their hopes up. However, the reinforcements they had waited so long

for could not save them. Their friends were captured one after another.

Their last bit of toughness was gone. Who could save them in this situation?

Hovering ships surrounded them. Goa and her teammates beside

her gave

up resisting and let go of their weapons.

At this time, the Floating Dragon Island entered the battlefield.

The fleets of

both sides hastily moved aside. It was like the pause button had been

pressed for the heated battle.

Sarota was shocked. "Why is there still interference? Didn't Holy Stone and

Black Raven lock the battlefield down? This is... Floating

Dragon?"

Both sides stopped. Floating Dragon became the focus of everyone.

Everyone—including DarkStar, the mercenary alliance fleet, Holy Stone,

and Black Raven—waited for it to leave as soon as possible. They were

fighting properly, and suddenly, a passerby appeared. Plus, it was someone

that they could not mess with. How were they going to continue fighting?

However, Floating Dragon Island stopped in the middle of the battlefield.

"What's going on?"

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"Why did it stop?"

The captains of all the parties were shocked. Was Floating Dragon not just

passing by? They already moved away and cleared its path, so why was it not leaving?

This time, an extremely piercing alarm triggered on the detector of every

battleship.

"Attention! Space ripple appeared nearby! High energy reaction! Calculating energy rank... The accurate calculation failed. Area of effect is

fluctuating, cannot be displayed!"

A blue dot appeared above Floating Dragon and expanded quickly, turning

into a spinning ring of light. Inside was a white fog that was only two to

three meters large. It was nothing that people would pay attention to in the

wide universe, but now, it attracted everyone's attention.

High Grade Secret Spell: Physical Entity Teleportation Door!

Then, a snow-white long leg stepped out of the ring of light.

Ames, who

was in a black dress, 'walked' out. Her black hair extended from behind her

back right to her ankles. On her beautiful face was her careless expression

as always, like those countless battleships could not even make her eyebrow

move even the slightest bit.

The commanders' faces all changed.

"Dragon Emperor?"

"Why is she here!"

Just as everyone was stunned and guessing what Ames' motive was, it

suddenly happened!

Ames saw DarkStar, and without saying a word, a violent force field gushed

out. The armor of the dozen or so DarkStar battleships nearby bent inward and exploded like fireworks! The entire process looked extremely easy. The battleships made from

DarkStar technology were as weak as pieces of paper in her hands—she

could turn them into paper balls in an instant!

This content is taken from

Sarota's face changed instantly, having not expected this at all.

Why did the

Dragon Emperor attack them?

Everyone was shocked. Shivate suddenly realized and yelled,

"She's not

passing by. She wants to help the mercenaries!"

The alliance fleet was stunned, then became overjoyed. Their morale grew

tremendously.

"Dragon Emperor is reinforcing us! Everyone, attack!"

Panic finally appeared on Sarota's face. The subordinates around all looked

at him and anxiously waited for him to give an order.

"Info— Inform everyone to retreat immediately. No wait, inform the fleets

to protect the mothership, form a defense formation, cover the mothership

to escape!"

Dragon Emperor's name was as impactful as thunder. When they met

Ames, everything about the mission was thrown out of his head.

Sarota

only had one thought now—minimize the damage and run for their life! As

soon as he gave out the order, he left the commander room and ran to an

escape pod.

The DarkStar fleet contracted their formation, forming a shield

formation

and protecting the mothership like a wall, blocking the focus fire from the

alliance fleet. Behind layers and layers of protection, the exterior of the

mothership started to fade away. It started to go into stealth and back away.

Seeing this, Ames' force field held onto the entire Floating Dragon Island,

then slammed it down!

The Floating Dragon Island covered in the golden shield was like a high

energy meteor. The DarkStar battleships were like tiny beans in front of it.

The defense formation shattered straight away. Floating Dragon Island

slammed into the mothership, unleashing burning sparks on the shield, and

a small half of the entire mothership was shattered!

The Floating Dragon Island was Ames' territory, palace, and... weapon.

Everyone at the scene was dazed.

Brimner opened her mouth wide and was speechless. She was supposed to

report the situation, but no one blamed her for it. Everyone who was

watching this had the same expression as her.

You can\_find the rest of this\_content on the platform.

Ames' name was known across the entire Shattered Star Ring, but the times

that she had shown her destructive power were very few. The impact of

seeing such unbelievably great power with one's own eyes was

like a hammer knocking heavily on their heart. The Dragon Emperor had arrived!