

Ocean Lord 151

Chapter 151: Rewards from the Lair, Core Acquired (1)

Ji Chen looked at his level again.

Only level 15...

It looked quite pathetic.

Sigh, he still had to take it a step at a time.

Ji Chen looked at the resources scattered throughout the cave, and a smile finally appeared on his face.

Although the process had been difficult and treacherous, the result was good.

Not only did he take down the pirate leader Robert, but he also successfully found this batch of rare resources.

Killing two birds with one stone!

After this period of time, the other army groups also managed to control the remaining pirates. When they heard that Robert was dead, many of the pirates chose to surrender.

Seven three-masted pirate ships in the harbor also fell into his hands.

These pirate ships were filled with cannons and were in good condition, ready to be used at any time.

Ji Chen left a part of the army to guard the surrendered pirates and the resources stored in various parts of the cave.

He planned to enter the secret passage opened by Robert.

The secret passage was not large, only as high as a person, and the width could only accommodate two people walking side by side. Even Naga warriors couldn't squeeze in even if they lowered their heads.

Seeing this, Ji Chen could only reluctantly ask the Naga warriors to stay behind and entered the passage with the smaller-sized Dragon Blood Muriocs.

After more than ten minutes, they arrived at a hidden bay.

By the simple dock on the bay, there was a three-masted warship moored.

This should be the ship that Robert used for his escape.

Shifting his gaze, Ji Chen began to observe the surrounding environment.

There were steep cliffs on the left, right, and rear of the bay, covered with lush trees.

The treetops were artificially tied together with ropes, creating a dense canopy that almost completely blocked the sky, not even allowing a hint of moonlight to penetrate.

The front of the bay was concealed by vegetation, cleverly disguised.

Even if a ship sailed past from the outside, it would be oblivious to the hidden bay concealed behind, where a ship lay hidden.

However, it was evident that Robert no longer required this vessel. He had already boarded the ship that would take him to paradise and departed without delay.

Ji Chen's mood improved.

The harvest this time was not only the seven pirate ships docked in the nearby harbor but also this one, making a total of eight.

Obtaining eight legitimate warships all at once was simply a huge profit!

He wanted to burst with excitement from earning a fortune!

Ji Chen left a few Dragon Blood Muriocs to guard the ship and turned back through the secret passage to the cave.

With a wave of his hand, he collected the scattered Mithril and Adamantium on the ground one by one.

"Ding- You have obtained 7000 units of Mithril."

"Ding- You have obtained 5000 units of Adamantium."

It seemed that these were the rare resources that the Black Skeleton Pirate

Crew plundered from that treasure ship, totaling 12,000 units of rare resources, which was not bad.

These resources could be used as materials for the next upgrade of the military talent tree.

On the other side of the cave, there were large wooden crates placed.

Ji Chen signaled a few Naga warriors to come forward and forcefully pried open the nailed lids with their sharp bone blades.

Inside were numerous fine steel scimitars and exquisitely crafted iron crossbows.

Looking at these weapons, Ji Chen pondered.

[Fine Steel Scimitar]

[Effect]: (D Increases slashing speed (2) Enhances armor-piercing ability

[Fine Steel Iron Crossbow]

[Effect]: 0 Increases penetration ability (2) Increases armor-piercing ability

Generally speaking, except for a few rare cases, the tier of a military unit cannot be changed.

However, human units, humanoid units, could improve their combat effectiveness by changing weapons.

For example, replacing a wooden spear with an iron spear or a hunting bow with a stronger bow.

For elite pirates like the second-tier 4-star human units, if they could equip better weapons, their combat effectiveness would increase significantly.

Based on the current quantity of these scimitars and crossbows, it was enough to equip all the pirates under his command.

With a wave of his hand, he ordered the army to start moving these weapons out of the cave and stack them at the harbor.

He had already called for the New Moon to return from its roaming outside the archipelago. The Tidal Sea Spirit was piloting the New Moon at full speed, and they would soon begin loading and unloading the spoils here.

In addition to a batch of rare resources and these weapons, Robert had also left a batch of blueprints here.

They were stacked up thickly.

Ji Chen casually picked them up and roughly skimmed through them.

Although there were no extremely rare blueprints, most of them were practical buildings, such as ordinary lighthouses, advanced residences, small ports, breweries, wine cellars, blacksmith shops, and the like.

Many of them were buildings that the Crown of the Ocean currently did not have.

Naturally, Ji Chen accepted them all.

With these blueprints, the prosperity of the Crown of the Ocean in terms of buildings would be greatly enhanced.

In addition, there were several boxes of jewelry, shining brightly and very eye-catching. Perhaps he could transport them to nearby islands where indigenous settlements were located and sell them in exchange for resources.

It was said that Robert had also hidden some resources in several places outside the islands.

But unfortunately, no one knew where they were hidden except for him.

Ji Chen could only sigh with regret.

Looking around, there didn't seem to be anything else worth noting.

He walked out of the cave with his hands behind his back, enjoying the breeze at the harbor.

The full moon shone in the sky, and the sea breeze brushed against his face.

The sea surface was calm.

In the distance, the massive silhouette of the New Moon appeared and slowly stopped at the docking area.

The cargo entrance on the ship's side opened automatically, and the gangway descended. The Naga warriors began to move the supplies into the cargo hold.

"Benbo, take the Dragon Blood Muriocs to nearby islands and clear out the remaining pirates there. Bring back those willing to surrender, and kill those who resist.."

Chapter 152: Rewards from the Lair, Core Acquired (2)

Benbo nodded and led dozens of Dragon Blood Mur Iocs into the sea, swiftly swimming towards a nearby island.

“You bring all the pirates on this island to the harbor!” Ji Chen said, looking at Anina standing beside him.

Anina quickly nodded and rushed into the cave with a large sword in hand. Shortly after, they drove hundreds of pirates out of the cave as if herding pigs. Each pirate sat on the ground with a dejected look, filled with confusion and fear.

Ji Chen saw their miserable appearance but had no comforting thoughts.

The reason he spared these pirates was to subdue them, so he would have enough manpower to sail the eight pirate ships back.

He straightforwardly stated, “If you submit to me, I will spare your lives.

Otherwise, you’ll die.”

Upon hearing this, a desire to live ignited in the pirates’ eyes, and they quickly agreed.

They had no thoughts of avenging Robert. Following him was only for the sake of earning gold coins and having food to eat.

As pirates, one should not expect them to possess virtues such as loyalty and faith.

Now that their leader was dead, it was natural for each of them to flee from the impending disaster. If they couldn’t flee, they would simply find another leader.

“Ding- You have subjugated 1250 pirates.”

Seeing the system prompt, Ji Chen nodded.

He waited for Benbo to return.

In the late night, Benbo and his crew safely escorted a group of pirates who were stationed on other islands back to their base.

Ji Chen repeated his earlier statement.

Without any surprises, these pirates, driven by their strong will to survive, chose to lower their heads.

“Ding- You have subjugated 250 pirates.”

In total, he had subjugated 1500 pirates here, adding to the previous 270, making it a total of 1770.

Although their tier and combat power were low, they had the advantage of sheer numbers, enough to make numerous ships of the Crown of the Ocean sail.

Transporting the resources would take some time.

After looking at the night sky, Ji Chen stretched lazily and went back to rest on the New Moon.

The massive ship provided a spacious and comfortable room, making him feel almost as comfortable as resting on land.

Before going to sleep, Ji Chen suddenly remembered something.

Besides conquering this pirate stronghold, he also planned to go out and trade with other players.

And the content of the trade would be military recruitment camp cores.

He had always had a limited number of recruitment camp cores. At best, he only had around ten of them.

The consequence of having a small number of recruitment camp cores was that the weekly recruitment quota was limited, and the growth of his army was slow.

He could only recruit about a dozen or twenty troops per week.

To form an army of a hundred people would take at least seven weeks!

At first, he thought it was fine, but now, after experiencing so many things...

Being hunted by tens of thousands of Blood Spirit Warriors, facing pirates in four digits, and preparing to resist an unknown number of Sea Heirs.

Ji Chen felt that his troops were suddenly insufficient.

He realized he was outnumbered in a physical confrontation.

He had absolute confidence in defeating enemies twice their number.

He even felt he could handle enemies five times their number.

If Alice and the others joined the battle, there was a possibility of winning against ten times the enemy.

But what about fifty times, a hundred times?

There were billions of players in this world, and there should be millions allocated to the Western Central Ocean coastline and many islands.

In such a massive player community, there must be someone who had the recruitment camp cores he desired.

Ji Chen casually opened the forum and, after some thought, posted a thread under the name "The Islander".

"Seeking to buy ocean and amphibious recruitment camp cores. Can trade with gold coins or rare resources. Trading location limited to the Western Central Ocean."

On chat channels and forums, there were countless similar threads, not only seeking recruitment camp cores but also seeking specific resources or treasures.

After all, there was no trading system or exchange) so players could only find what they wanted through these inefficient means.

And it was also limited by geographical distance, which was particularly apparent at sea, where it often took days to sail.

After posting the thread, Ji Chen planned to check for responses the next day.

But before he could close it, the thread started to refresh like crazy.

“Big Boss Islander is back from the dead!”

“The boss is still awake at this late hour. It’s no wonder he’s so powerful. Even at this hour, he’s still working hard and striving!”

Ji Chen’s mouth twitched as he read these night owl players’ comments.

Can’t you guys just focus on the topic? Can’t you answer the content of the thread seriously?

After a series of bragging, someone finally noticed the topic of the thread.

“I have a few Tier-1 recruitment camp cores that I haven’t had a chance to use.

But, boss, you might not be interested...”

“I think so too. Big Boss Islander probably has Tier-2 or Tier-3 troops. Tier-1 probably won’t catch his attention.”

Seeing this, Ji Chen narrowed his eyes.

As long as the troops are suitable, what’s wrong with Tier-1?

He was a man with a military talent tree! Even the initially useless Tier-1

Water Spirits had been elevated to the level of Tier-3.

And his initial River Murloc troop had become a 4-star, Tier-3 Dragon Blood Murloc.

He wondered how shocked those players would be if the Dragon Blood Murlocs evolved to Tier-5, Tier-6, or even the supreme Tier-7 troops.

This scene resembled a person with previously perceived elementary-level intelligence suddenly discovering they had been admitted to a world-renowned university.

“No matter the tier, as long as they suit me. I’ll take them. The more recruitment camp cores, the better,” Ji Chen added a sentence to the thread and pinned it.

Soon, players started to apply for private chats, showcasing the recruitment camp cores they possessed.

And most of them were ocean and amphibious troops.

Thorny Flying Fish – Tier-1, 5-star, 4 cores.

Floating Crab – Tier-1, 7-star, 3 cores.

Shallow Water Lizard – Tier-1, 4-star, 6 cores.

Marsh Murloc – Tier-2, 2-star, 4 cores.

Lobster Rider – Tier-2, 1-star, 6 cores.

Toxic Octopus – Tier-2, 3-star, 2 cores.

There were a variety of troops at different tiers.

Besides Tier-1, there were also quite a few Tier-2 and Tier-3 troops.

But Tier-2 was the main focus, while Tier-3, although available, usually had only one core, so Ji Chen quickly excluded them.

The selling price of Tier-3 recruitment camp cores was outrageous, far from their actual value.

They demanded resources in the range of four-digit rare items or five-digit gold coins, or a few rare blueprint drawings.

Did they really think he was a fool?

With those resources, he could elevate several Tier-2 troops to Tier-3. Why would he just buy one core from them?

After observing a few Tier-3 sellers, Ji Chen focused on Tier-1 and Tier-2 troops.

After all, the lower the tier, the cheaper the price, and the more cores available.

After careful selection, he finally settled on two troops that were highly suitable and had advancement value.

One each from Tier-1 and Tier-2.

[Self-Detonating Water Spider]

Race: Water Spider

[Tier]: Tier-1, 3-star

Skills: Unstable Crystals (White skill, able to detonate the crystals within its body)

Splash (White skill, increases the explosion range by 10%)

Swift (White skill, increases movement speed by 20%)

[I'm a Magnet]

[Lobster Rider]

[Tier]: Tier-2, 1-star

Charge (White skill, when in a charging state, increases movement speed by 10% and impact force by 5%)

Agility (White skill, increases movement speed by 5%)

Unit Trait: Coordinated Charge (When fighting or charging with troops of the same kind, all attributes increase by 5%)

[Charge Away!!]

Self-Detonating Water Spider and Lobster Rider.

One relied on self-detonation to harm the enemy, while the other was a cavalry unit in water.

Chapter 153: King Kong Island (1)

Even among low-tier units, there were differences in their strengths and weaknesses. Some units, despite their low tier, naturally possessed three or even four abilities, while others only had one or two abilities. Even with upgrades from the military talent tree, the overall improvement was relatively limited.

The two units Ji Chen had selected, the Self-Detonating Water Spider and the Lobster Rider, both had three abilities. With their innate potential being decent, advancing them to higher tiers would make them even more formidable.

Having the military talent tree as an advantage and acquiring high-quality recruitment core units did not conflict with each other.

Once Ji Chen had chosen the two units, he checked the names of the players selling them.

Coincidentally, both units came from the same person.

The player's forum name was T_Love_Black_ Stockings", which made Ji Chen chuckle.

Forum names were chosen only once, and once confirmed, they couldn't be changed. They accompanied the players for their entire lives, without any name change cards or similar items.

However, this player had fearlessly selected such a username. Ji Chen couldn't help but question whether they were genuinely confident or simply possessed an audacious nature.

However, in his heart, Ji Chen affirmed it.

Not for any particular reason, but because he, too, liked black stockings.

After expressing his intention to purchase, "I_Love_Black_ Stockings" quickly responded, as if waiting by the computer.

"Is it really Big Boss Islander? Am I not mistaken? Is there someone with the same name..."

"Hello."

"Ah! It really is you!!"

"Oh my goodness, if my neighbor, Old Wang, knew I was talking to you, he would be so envious!"

"No, I have to jot down what's happening right now in my notebook. It will be my family heirloom!"

"I_Love_Black_ Stockings" seemed extremely excited and sent several messages in a row, flooding Ji Chen's screen and leaving him speechless.

Seeing "I_Love_Black_ Stockings" being so excited, as if encountering an idol, Ji Chen couldn't help but feel nostalgic.

Was he now considered a celebrity?

"Cough cough, let's get to the point."

"Oh, right, can't waste your time. Big Boss Islander, which one of my Self-Detonating Water Spiders and Lobster Riders do you want? The Self-Detonating Water Spider has 5 recruitment cores, and the Lobster Rider has 6. The more you buy, the more discounts you get!"

“I want both, so I’ll take all the cores.”

“Impressive, Boss. You’re showing your dominance and might! ”

“As long as the price suits my liking, whether it’s gold coins or rare resources, there’s no problem.”

His words exuded great confidence.

He had a large amount of gold coins, and he also possessed mithril, crystals, and precious metals. Buying a few recruitment cores wouldn’t faze him at all.

As if awed by Ji Chen’s imposing manner, “I_Love_Black_Sockings” hesitated for a while before continuing.

“Now that you’ve said that, let me boldly propose the price...”

“One Self-Detonating Water Spider recruitment core for 50 gold coins, one Lobster Rider recruitment core for 300 gold coins. Do you think this price is suitable?”¹

When Ji Chen saw the price, his brow furrowed deeply.

50 gold coins... 300 gold coins...

Wasn’t this... too cheap?

50 gold coins were equivalent to the price of two Eastern Continent exotic slaves.

300 gold coins were just the value of six warhorses.

Based on the 5 Self-Detonating Water Spider recruitment cores and 6 Lobster Rider recruitment cores, it would only require a total of 2050 gold coins.

In normal circumstances, this seemed like a lot, but these were recruitment cores that could continuously produce units.

$5+7=13$. This quantity was more than all the recruitment cores Ji Chen had acquired in the past.

Could it be that obtaining this many cores was the normal situation for players?

Seeing Ji Chen remain silent for a longtime, “I_Love_Black_Sockings” thought the offer was too high and quickly said, “If the Boss finds this price unacceptable, I can immediately change it... 45 gold coins for the

Self-Detonating Water Spider and 260 gold coins for the Lobster Rider. Would you find this price acceptable?”

When Ji Chen snapped out of his daze and saw these words, a wry smile formed on his lips.

Why did it become even cheaper?

Didn’t this already seem like a loss?

He had the money to buy them, so there was no need to push the price so low...

While he took a moment to complain, “I_Love_Black_Sockings” sent another message.

“Sob Sob, 40 gold coins for the Self-Detonating Water Spider, and 240 gold coins for the Lobster Rider. This is the lowest price I can offer. If it goes any lower, I’ll be at a loss! These recruitment cores were obtained by risking my life to infiltrate monster lairs, and half of the units I brought with me died. At least let me break even! Boss, if you truly want them, please have mercy and accept this price?”

Seeing “I_Love_Black_Sockings” in such a distressed state, Ji Chen couldn’t help but chuckle.

It seemed that there was a discrepancy in their understanding of the value of recruitment cores and the actual value of gold coins.

However, Ji Chen was curious. Why would “I_Love_Black_Sockings” be willing to lower the price by 20% just to sell these recruitment cores to him?

He felt that these two units were quite good and should have considerable market value.

When Ji Chen asked this question, “I_Love_Black_Sockings” spoke with a tinge of bitterness in their words.

“To be honest, my ship was recently destroyed by wild units in the open sea, and I won’t be able to go out for hunting and fishing for some time. My territory currently needs a sum of gold coins to buy food.. If we continue to face a shortage of food in a few days, the morale of the residents will hit rock bottom, and there will be a revolt!”

Chapter 154: King Kong Island (2)

“And the Self-Detonating Water Spider and the Lobster Rider are the two main units in my territory. There are a few nearby players willing to buy them, but... even if I’m in a hurry to sell, I can’t sell them to players so close to me, right? Otherwise, if one day they use these units to attack me, it would be a big problem. And other players who are interested in buying them are all too far away. Their ships can’t cross the ocean, and they don’t have the time or willingness to take the risk of sailing... But, Big Boss Islander, when you said your range is limited to the Western Middle Ocean, doesn’t that mean you have the ability to easily cross the ocean and go anywhere for purchases?”

After reading the last sentence, Ji Chen nodded in realization.

He hadn’t expected that a casual remark would reveal such information about him.

It was understandable, though. Most ocean players only had small ships, and it was not easy for them to have a large ship capable of crossing the open sea.

Having been accustomed to commanding large warships, Ji Chen had failed to grasp the challenges encountered by ordinary players.

“Let’s trade the Self-Detonating Water Spider for 50 gold coins and the Lobster Rider for 300 gold coins.”

“Thank you, Big Boss! You’re too kind!”

“So, when can we make the trade?”

“You haven’t told me the location for the trade.”

“Oh, right. I was so excited that I forgot about it. Just come directly to King Kong Island. My territory is located here.”

King Kong Island

Ji Chen’s eyebrows twitched.

He had heard about this place on the chat channel and forums. It was a large island located in the northern part of the Western Middle Ocean, named after its shape resembling the head of a gorilla.

Many players started their initial territories on this island, but due to the dense player population, limited resources, and the initial isolation of the islands, a large-scale battle erupted in the early stages.

During this battle, more than one-third of the players who started on King Kong Island died.

It was a solution to the problem of resource scarcity, similar to the dilemma of dividing ten apples among fifteen people.

However, until now, friction among players on King Kong Island continued, and occasional attacks on territories resulted in fatalities.

There were rumors about a few powerful players wanting to unify the entire island...

Compared to players who settled on the mainland with more resources and greater distances between territories, the players on King Kong Island who managed to survive until now could be considered elite, having fought their way out of a bloodbath.

It seemed that I_Love_Black_Socks was not a simple person either.

King Kong Island was located north of the Silver Islands, west of the island stronghold. It would take about three days to reach there from Ji Chen’s current location.

“Just sail your ship to the east side of King Kong Island. There is a sea cliff that faces directly towards my territory!”

“But, Big Boss, don’t get too close to other coastal areas of King Kong Island. Many players have set up artillery, and they might attack you.”

After a pause, I_Love_Black_Socks quickly added, “Of course, I don’t think you won’t be able to handle them, but if you get attacked unexpectedly, repairing the ship will cost a lot.”

“Don’t worry, I will arrive in about three days. Please be patient.”

“Understood, I look forward to your arrival!”

Ji Chen closed the private chat and had a faint premonition.

This journey to King Kong Island might bring about some interesting events...

Although it wasn't far from his current location, time was tight.

He looked at the time and realized that they needed to depart before noon tomorrow to arrive on schedule.

He walked onto the deck and urged the soldiers and pirates who were transporting supplies, "Speed up the process! We will set sail and leave by noon tomorrow!"

"Yes!"

The overseers shouted, and the workers doubled their efforts.

With the concerted efforts of the pirates, Robert's accumulated resources, which had been saved for an unknown period, were all loaded onto the New Moon and the other pirate ships.

To Ji Chen's surprise, they discovered a batch of intact cannons in a warehouse.

These cannons were regularly maintained by Robert for replacements, so they were in excellent condition and could be used immediately after being transported onto the ship.

Naturally, Ji Chen had them all moved out. Some were stored, while others were installed in the vacant gun positions on the New Moon.

When all the gun barrels on the New Moon were extended, one after another, like a forest of black and thick barrels, Ji Chen couldn't help but feel excited.

This was the complete form of the New Moon, armed with a total of 150 cannons, 75 on each side.

When all the gun barrels were extended, it looked as menacing as a hedgehog.

And the most terrifying part was that the operation of the cannons required a significant number of skilled operators. However, under the control of the Tidal Sea Spirit, it was almost negligible.

Only a continuous supply of ammunition was needed, and the Tidal Sea Spirit could handle the loading and firing of the cannons, keeping them in a constant state of full firepower.

This surpassed even the fully automated loading cannons.

The role of the Tidal Sea Spirit was becoming increasingly prominent.

Perhaps the former owner, Edward, had not expected that the New Moon, which was once Whitebeard's ship, could transform into its current state.

"Retract the cannons and close the gunports!"

As the command was given, the cannons retracted, and the wooden panels of the gunports automatically closed.

"Open the gunports and extend the cannons!"

With a click, the wooden panels of the gunports lifted, and the gun barrels extended out of the ship's sides.

At this moment, Ji Chen became increasingly curious.

He wanted to see the scene when all the cannons fired together.

The pirates moved the ammunition onto the New Moon, storing some and placing others directly beside the cannons on the decks.

Once the ammunition was in position, Ji Chen ordered the New Moon to leave the port and move to a nearby area on the sea.

Standing on the deck, he instructed the Tidal Sea Spirit, "Adjust the angles and aim at the distant cliffs!"

The ship's cannons began adjusting their angles and heights, aiming at the target.

"Load the propellant and projectiles!"

Visible blue energy flows, substantial enough to be seen with the naked eye, lifted the propellant and projectiles on the deck one by one and loaded them into the gun barrels.

The priming stones were placed at the back of the barrels, and a simple spark against the firing port would ignite the propellant inside the barrels, propelling the projectiles forward.

At this moment, as many as 75 cannons were ready to fire.

Everything was prepared.

Suppressing his excitement, Ji Chen calmly commanded, "Fire!"

Boom-

Boom—

As the command was given, the gun barrels emitted flames and smoke, and thick white smoke rose, filling the nearby area with the smell of gunpowder.

At the moment of the cannon fire, the recoil generated was enough to make the entire ship drift laterally more than ten meters, causing the opposite side of the ship to tilt slightly downward.

This demonstrated the tremendous recoil generated when so many cannons fired simultaneously.

Ji Chen held onto the handrail, stabilizing himself, and squinted his eyes to watch.

He saw dozens of dark cannonballs soaring through the air in a graceful arc, heading towards the target.

Boom—

The powerful force from the abundant gunpowder struck the cliff, leaving pockmarks and scattering debris.

Some cannonballs hit the treetops on the cliff, breaking them in half and startling countless birds.

With just one volley from one side of the ship, as long as most of the cannonballs hit their mark, it would be enough to disable a three-masted warship.

Ji Chen was very satisfied with the test results. He ordered the cannons and gunports to be retracted, and the New Moon returned to its berth.

The pirates, who had just submitted, became much more obedient after witnessing the New Moon's formidable display of power, abandoning their unscrupulous thoughts.

The next day at noon, they completed the task of transporting supplies on time.

All the soldiers and pirates boarded their respective ships and under the leadership of the flagship New Moon, a fleet of nine warships set sail towards their destination, King Kong Island..

Chapter 155: Arrival, Female Player?

After a day of sailing, the fleet merged into the shipping lane and gradually began to see other vessels passing by. Led by the New Moon, the fleet formed a reverse V-shaped formation, swiftly advancing with unstoppable momentum. This fleet consisted of a total of nine warships. Each ship had at least three masts with billowing sails, creating a rustling sound. The dense rows of cannons on both sides of the ships sent shivers down people's spines.

Among them, the New Moon, positioned at the forefront of the V-shape, was an enormous behemoth. In any fleet, a warship of this tonnage and size would serve as the flagship. At present, it was equipped with a full complement of cannons, greatly enhancing its intimidating power.

As the leader of the fleet, the New Moon didn't slow down or evade any opposing ships that came their way. Instead, it charged forward with an imposing aura, as if daring anyone to stand in its path. The oncoming ships, caught off guard, panicked and changed course to avoid them, keeping a safe distance.

Witnessing this scene, the recently subdued Black Skeleton Pirates burst into laughter, accompanied by some vulgar remarks. They were practically wearing their arrogance on their faces.

The passengers on the ships that had narrowly avoided collision looked at the colossal New Moon, bristling with cannons on its sides, and the eight fully armed large warships in its fleet. They dared not utter a word.

In the ocean, there existed unique and straightforward rules. The larger the ship and the more cannons it carried, the greater the authority it held. Clearly, Ji Chen now possessed such authority.

Observing the ships making way for them on the shipping lane, Ji Chen became emotional. It was true that being physically or metaphorically strong could lead to success or favorable outcomes. Without saying a word, he could make others voluntarily yield.

Some natives and players pondered the identity of this fleet as they watched the New Moon and its eight warships sail away. Could it be the Bauhinia Alliance? The Hanseatic Chamber of Commerce? Or perhaps a fleet from a certain duchy or kingdom?

Some old captains who had been sailing in the Western Mid-Ocean for decades suddenly realized something and their faces changed. They immediately instructed their sailors to steer the ships away, fearing they would be noticed. "Captain, why are we sailing away at full speed? There doesn't seem to be any danger," a young sailor asked in confusion.

"You fool!" the captain scolded angrily. "Didn't you notice that something was off about that fleet?"

"What's wrong? They were just a bit domineering. It's probably a fleet from some powerful force..."

“That’s no ordinary Chamber of Commerce, Alliance, or duchy fleet. They might be ruthless pirates!”

The young sailor’s face turned pale. “But they don’t look like pirates...”

“Did you forget about the Black Skeleton Pirates that often haunt these waters? Do they proudly fly their black flag to announce they’re pirates? The Black Skeleton Pirates often disguise their pirate ships as ordinary vessels, mingling among the shipping lanes. But once they find their target, they hoist the black skeleton flag and plunder. If we hadn’t left earlier, what would have happened if the pirates noticed us?”

The young sailor suddenly realized the situation, shivering with lingering fear, grateful that their ship hadn’t become a target for pirates.

Ji Chen sailed innocently, unaware that others had mistakenly labeled him as a pirate. In some ways, their judgment wasn’t entirely unfounded. He commanded a considerable number of pirates, his ships were originally associated with piracy, and he had been involved in piratical endeavors. Considering these factors, it was no wonder that people perceived him as a pirate.

Two days later, Ji Chen stood on the bow of the ship, gazing into the distance. The number of passing ships had increased, ranging from large two-masted and three-masted vessels to smaller fishing boats and other small crafts. It meant that they were getting close to King Kong Island.

After two more hours, a shout came from the lookout tower on the mast. “Land ahead!”

In his line of sight, the outline of King Kong Island gradually emerged. Ji Chen gave the order for the fleet to circle the island and search for the reference point mentioned by I_Love_Black_Sockings.

Along the way, he noticed numerous docks lining the coast, appearing almost every few hundred meters. Each coastal player territory was marked by a dock, representing a player’s domain.

Seeing such a dense distribution of territories, Ji Chen felt somewhat embarrassed. They had encountered dozens of player territories in such a short distance, while the vast New Moon Islands had only him as the lord. The disparity was like night and day.

As they circled around King Kong Island, they eventually reached the territory of I_Love_Black_Sockings. It was a coastal area, with half of it submerged in the sea and the other half situated on elevated ground near the shore. Two stone piers extended outwards, providing mooring space for slightly larger single-masted ships, exceeding the size of typical fishing boats.

At the top of the elevated area stood the Lord’s Manor, and a dirt road connected it with the pier. Residential houses, blacksmith shops, and recruitment camps were built layer by layer along the slope.

Though it appeared somewhat modest, it was full of vitality, indicating that I_Love_Black_Sockings had decent governance skills.

Ji Chen opened the chat channel and privately messaged I_Love_Black_Sockings.

“I’ve arrived.”

“What?! So fast? i thought it would take you another two days, Big Boss..”

Chapter 157:I_Love_Black stocking’s Request, Ancient Ruins

Ji Chen snapped back to reality and saw I_Love_Black_Sockings staring at him with anticipation... Wait, she was looking at his water hand that was holding a wooden box.

He waved his hand in front of her, but there was no response.

He cleared his throat and spoke up.

“The quantity is correct.”

Only then did I_Love_Black_Sockings snap out of her daze and curiously asked, “Does your profession grant you the ability to create a water staircase and water hand, Islander? It looks so cool.”

Completing the trade smoothly, Ji Chen was in a decent mood and didn’t hide anything.

“That’s right. My profession allows me to manipulate water and shape it into any form.”

As he said that, he raised his hand, and the water hand transformed into a water ball, taking on various forms such as swords, spears, and even flowers and trees.

I_Love_Black_Sockings was astonished by the versatility of the shapes, whether they were soft or hard, long or short, thick or thin.

Suddenly, she thought of something strange, and her face turned red.

Ji Chen looked at her with curiosity.

“Why are you suddenly blushing?”

I_Love_Black_Sockings shook her head frantically. “No, no, it’s probably... probably because of the hot weather!”

He looked up at the sky. Despite the clear day, the coastal breeze kept the temperature pleasant, sparing them from the discomfort of blushing. However, he wasn’t inclined to pursue the topic any further.

Ji Chen casually waved his hand, and the water was thrown back into the sea.

“Now that the trade is complete, then...”

Boom!

Before he could finish speaking, there was a sudden explosion from the forest near the territory.

I_Love_Black_Sockings was startled, and her expression changed.

“What’s happening?” Ji Chen looked in the direction of the explosion and asked.

“That’s the sound of the self-detonating water spiders guarding my territory. They must have encountered invaders,” I_Love_Black_Socks said urgently. “I’m unable to continue entertaining you, Islander. I need to hurry and check the situation.”

Ji Chen understood the seriousness of the situation and nodded.

I_Love_Black_Socks didn’t waste any more time and led several squads of 7-star Tier 2 human units toward the direction of the explosion.

It seemed like she used some treasure items along the way, as the speed of the entire army suddenly increased, and they quickly arrived at the scene.

In a blink of an eye, the majority of the stationed defending army had departed from the territory, leaving only a few to maintain order.

The defense was now extremely vulnerable.

Ji Chen shook his head. I_Love_Black_Socks really trusted him to stay here alone. She wasn’t afraid that he would do something.

But with or without defenses, it wouldn’t make much difference.

If he really wanted to do something, even if she combined all her forces, it wouldn’t be enough to stop him.

Half an hour later, I_Love_Black_Socks returned with her army.

Ji Chen looked at her with a somewhat grimy face, but her army seemed unharmed. Curiously, he asked, “What happened?”

“Other players came to harass the territory,” I_Love_Black_Socks said with a bitter expression. “You’ve probably heard about the situation on King Kong Island. Initially, when players first arrived here, they were overly concentrated, resulting in a large-scale conflict for resources. Although it eventually calmed down, with the development and expansion of the players, a similar situation has emerged recently.”

I_Love_Black_Socks sighed heavily. “I occupied several nearby resource points during that time and fortunately recruited two heroes, which increased my strength compared to the neighboring players. As a result, they united and started harassing me intermittently. I’ve been running around every day, unable to lead my troops out to attack them, fearing that I would be ambushed as soon as I step out. To be honest with you, I’ve recently lost two resource points and suffered heavy casualties among my troops. I’ve lost almost a third of my units during this period,” she continued.

“Just now, with the gold coins I obtained from the trade, I had to buy resources and recruit new troops. But if this continues, I’m afraid I won’t be able to hold on for much longer.”

As she spoke, exhaustion became evident on her face.

It dawned on Ji Chen that there was more to the situation than he initially thought. No wonder I_Love_Black_Sockings was so eager to sell the military recruitment cores.

However, despite the unfortunate circumstances, Ji Chen had no inclination to intervene. Their relationship was limited to that of trading partners, and it didn't reach the level where he felt compelled to lend a helping hand.

I_Love_Black_Sockings glanced at Ji Chen's indifferent expression and let out a heavy sigh. She understood that even if the big boss had immense power, there was no reason for him to willingly meddle in her affairs. Yet, a flicker of disappointment couldn't help but cross her eyes.

In the depths of her heart, she made a firm resolution, and her face turned serious.

"Islander, I have a favor to ask of you. I happened to come across a key that grant access to an ancient ruins. The location of this relic lies deep within the central jungle of King Kong Island. I've heard that this ruins was left behind by a civilization that once ruled over King Kong Island. It undoubtedly holds precious and rare treasures and resources, and it's likely guarded by powerful beings. Due to my own limitations, I haven't been able to explore it myself. But with your abilities, I believe you can fully explore that place.. Therefore, if you can help me overcome this crisis, I'm willing to offer the key to you as a reward!"

Chapter 158: I Love Black Sockings's Request, Ancient Ruins

Ancient Ruins?

A key?

Ji Chen's eyes sparked with interest; it seemed quite intriguing.

After traveling a long distance to get here, it would be great if he could bring something back along the way.

With this thought in mind, Ji Chen nodded slowly. "What do you want me to help you with?"

Upon hearing this response, I_Love_Black_Sockings showed a hint of excitement on her face.

"Help me eliminate, no, completely destroy several players near my territory and their territories," she said without hesitation, her tone decisive.

There was no politeness, only a ruthless determination to exterminate her enemies.

As expected, Ji Chen narrowed his eyes in response, having already guessed the nature of her request.

Aside from harmonious trade, communication, and mutual assistance between players, there was no shortage of mutual killing and slaughter.

Unlike the New Moon Islands, where he was the only player and didn't have to kill others for survival space from the beginning, King Kong Island was characterized by bloodshed and killing.

Perhaps when a dominant player appears who could easily suppress others, or when the entire island was left with enough resources to support a certain number of lords, this situation might disappear.

After a long silence, Ji Chen looked at I_Love_Black_Socks and spoke slowly.

“Alright, but you better ensure that the key is genuine and that the ancient ruins actually exist. Otherwise, you know the consequences.”

Finishing his words, a cold glint appeared in his profound eyes as the power of the Tidal Lord profession burst forth within a hundred meters radius.

On the surface of the sea, waves surged upwards, creating a colossal water giant that stood tens of meters tall. Its gaze was fixed firmly on her.

Within a hundred meters, all the residents and troops of I_Love_Black_Socks looked at him with fear in their eyes.

Their bodies felt as heavy as a thousand pounds, unable to resist the pressure, and they knelt down on the ground.

Even her Blue Excellent-Tier hero, in the face of this overwhelming might, was caught off guard, tense all over as they resisted with all their might.

I_Love_Black_Socks looked at Ji Chen, who had become merciless like a deity, and the water giant behind him, swallowing hard.

After taking a deep breath, she spoke with determination.

“If I have deceived you even a bit just now, I am willing to bear all the consequences!”

Silence followed.

After a moment, she suddenly felt the pressure on her shoulder loosen.

The water giant dissolved, transforming back into water that splashed into the sea. However, a sudden water barrier materialized, preventing the water from reaching them.

“Very well, tell me everything you know about these players—their levels, military units, territory locations, and anything else, without missing a single detail.”

“Yes!” I_Love_Black_Socks breathed a sigh of relief, then pointed to the Lord’s Manor on the high ground. “It’s not convenient to talk here. Please come to the Lord’s Manor for a detailed discussion.”

Ji Chen nodded and walked towards the mansion with Alice, Anina, and Benbo, leaving the rest of the troops behind, on standby.

I_Love_Black_Socks’ territory was at the Village level, but the Lord’s Manor was not a thatched hut; it was a two-story wooden house.

Although not large, the interior and exterior were warmly decorated, resembling a home and showing a woman’s attentiveness.

Sitting in the chairs inside the house, I_Love_Black_Sockings poured a glass of water for Ji Chen before starting her introduction.

“There are four players near my territory, and their strengths are relatively close. Their military units range from Tier 1, 5 stars to Tier 2, 6 stars, with a total quantity of around 300 to 350.”

“What can a Tier 1, 5-star military unit do?” Ji Chen asked, puzzled.

I_Love_Black_Sockings chuckled twice, saying, “Well, they can still be used as cannon fodder to consume the enemy’s mana and stamina.”

She had seen the troops Ji Chen brought with him, most of which were Tier 3. The Murlocs, in particular, were even Tier 4 units.

With so many powerful units, Ji Chen naturally didn’t think much of these lower-tier ones.

In fact, at this stage, the mainstream forces of players mainly consisted of Tier 2 units, but due to the limited recruitment capacity of the recruitment camp, they had to recruit some Tier 1 lower-tier units to serve as cannon fodder and suicide squads.

“Continue,” Ji Chen urged.

“Alright... Among them, three players have a white common-Tier hero each, belonging to the amphibious ocean class, which can be quite effective in water. My Blue Excellent-Tier hero is a human and unable to kill them in water. And one of the players has a green elite-Tier hero. These four players’ territories are located in different positions, with a certain distance from here. But once one of them comes under attack, the other three will come to support or launch a surprise attack on my territory. So, if we want to completely eliminate them, we need to take out two of them before they can react. Then, even without your intervention, I can handle the remaining two,” I_Love_Black_Sockings explained.

“No need for that, let’s settle it all at once,” Ji Chen casually waved his hand.

“All at once?” I_Love_Black_Sockings hesitated, “Wouldn’t that be too direct?”

Ignoring her concerns, Ji Chen turned to Alice, Anina, and Benbo.

“Alice, Anina, Benbo, each of you lead a group of troops to attack a territory and completely destroy it. Don’t let anyone escape.”

“Yes, as you wish. Should we leave no ordinary residents alive as well?” Alice asked.

“If they don’t resist, you can spare them. But if they put up a fight, deal with them on the spot.”

“I understand.”

However, it was Anina who spoke up, her slightly chubby face showing some dissatisfaction. “I can handle all of them alone. Why do I need troops to accompany me?”

“Although your strength can easily deal with them, if they scatter and flee, you won’t be able to catch them. So, let these troops assist you in surrounding them,” Ji Chen explained.

After thinking for a moment, Anina seemed to understand the reasoning and reluctantly nodded.

Handle them alone?

I_Love_Black_Socks looked at the girl, whose height only reached her shoulders but carried a sword taller than herself, with surprise.

That sword looked intimidating, but she didn’t seem to possess a formidable combat power.

Could she also be a hero?

“Lord, who is this...” I_Love_Black_Socks began to ask.

“Anina is also a hero and fully capable of handling this mission,” Ji Chen replied without explaining further.

I_Love_Black_Socks nodded, muttering to herself about Anina being a green elite-Tier or blue excellent-Tier hero.

She secretly glanced at Anina’s character panel.

[Anina (Hero)]

[Race]: Deep Sea Dragon Whale

[Level]: 20

[Current Tier]: Purple (Rare Tier)

[Potential]: ?

[Skills]: ?

???

That long-finned silver-haired girl being a Purple Rare-Tier hero was already surprising enough.

But why is this little girl also a Purple Rare-Tier hero?

And what kind of race is a Deep Sea Dragon Whale?

A combination of a dragon and a whale, it must be an extraordinary race, right?

With these thoughts in mind, she quietly glanced at the silver-haired girl’s character panel.

[Alice (Hero)]

[Race]: Siren

[Level]: 15

[Current Tier]: Purple (Rare Tier)

[Potential]: ?

[Skills]: ?

I_Love_Black_Sockings' heart skipped a beat.

Siren.

No one who fought in the ocean would be unfamiliar with this race.

Their population is even scarcer than artifacts.

Countless legends tell of the horrors associated with this race.

At this moment, she finally felt completely relieved.

With such powerful heroes, let alone those four players, they could wipe out the entire island.

At this moment, a sense of relief surged within I_Love_Black_Sockings.

She was grateful that the Big Boss Islander was just a passerby and would leave after the task was completed.

Otherwise...

She shook off the chaotic thoughts in her mind and gained a surge of confidence.

This plan was solid!

After considering it, I_Love_Black_Sockings directly took out the “key” and decisively handed it over with both hands.

“Boss, I’m giving you this ‘key’ right now.”

Ji Chen looked at the “key” in her hands, raising an eyebrow.

He casually took it and examined it closely.

Bearing the name of a key yet devoid of its traditional form, it resembles a metallic implement reminiscent of a Lu Ban lock.

Forged from an enigmatic metal, its incredible hardness is matched only by the ethereal glimmer that emanates from its silver texture, creating an aura of peculiarity and extraordinary craftsmanship.

Could this be the key to unlock the secrets of the ancient ruins?

Chapter 159: Dividing the Forces, One Man Overcomes the Enemy

This “key” with its extraordinary form further piqued Ji Chen’s interest in the ancient relic.

As they say, a key matches its lock.

If the key is extraordinary, then the lock must be equally exceptional.

Thus, the locked ruins is naturally extraordinary as well.

With this thought, Ji Chen’s gaze towards I_Love_Black_Sockings became more friendly.

After all, she had already handed over the reward before anyone was even eliminated, showing some level of sophistication.

I_Love_Black_Sockings had been silently observing Ji Chen's expression, and upon seeing the change in his eyes, she felt a surge of joy, knowing she had made the right bet.

Suddenly, she thought of a question, "Big Boss Islander, you have allocated your three heroes to handle one each, but what should be done with the remaining one?"

"I will take care of the last one."

I_Love_Black_Sockings was momentarily speechless, but considering the overwhelming presence Big Boss Islander had just displayed, along with the towering water elemental, she instantly felt reassured.

Ji Chen walked out of the wooden house, looked at the sky, and turned back to her, speaking calmly, "I will resolve this matter today. You just wait here."

After saying that, he left with the heroes, and the army split into four groups, marching towards their respective targets.

Several kilometers north of I_Love_Black_Sockings' territory, in a domain by the lake, inside the Lord Manor's hall.

The male player with a square face sat in the first seat, engaged in discussion with two other players.

The cunning smile that occasionally crossed his face indicated that they seemed to be plotting something wicked.

"How many units did we ambush this time?" the square-faced player asked.

"Probably over forty. She probably has less than 600 units left now. Compared to half a month ago, she has already lost more than a third," the male player sitting on the left replied.

But the male player on the right showed some concern on his face.

"She still has 600 units left? If she launches an attack with them, none of us will be able to match her."

"Don't worry, as long as she dares to move her troops, the rest of us will directly attack her territory. She won't take that risk!"

"You're right. If things continue like this, we can launch a direct assault and divide her resources and population!"

"That's right. I can't wait to see that moment."

The two male players were brimming with confidence, as if victory was already in their hands.

At that moment, the square-faced player's expression turned slightly serious, and he said slowly.

“Do not underestimate her. A woman who has managed to survive until this point may possess hidden abilities. We must gradually chip away at her strength, eroding her spirit until she succumbs to despair and vulnerability. Only when she is at her weakest and unable to resist, can we seize our opportunity.”

“You’re right. Your considerations are thorough!”

Upon hearing this, the two male players quickly agreed.

Strength reigns supreme, and the square-faced player was the strongest among them, making him the leader.

“But don’t worry too much. We have already blocked her land passage to the island for hunting, and we secretly sabotaged her boats, preventing her from going fishing at sea. She must be struggling not just with the loss of units but also with food shortage. If we continue to deplete her resources, she won’t be able to hold on for long.”

Hearing this, the square-faced player’s expression relaxed slightly.

Even if her military strength was formidable, without enough food to sustain her territory, her domain would likely collapse even without their intervention.

Suddenly, the male player on the left seemed to have a realization, and a wicked smile appeared on his face.

“After we break through her territory, we can entertain her properly.”

The word “entertain” was emphasized heavily.

Upon hearing this, the square-faced player thought of the woman’s attractive figure, her long legs in black stockings, and a lecherous gleam flickered in his eyes.

His tone became slightly excited.

“I’ve had my fair share of native women, but I haven’t had the chance to play with a female player yet.”

Since becoming the supreme ruler of the territory, where life and death were in their hands, their wicked desires had been unleashed. They slept with anyone in the territory who had some attractiveness.

But as time went on, they lost interest in ordinary native women.

Now, only conquering stronger and more beautiful women could satisfy them.

Clearly, I_Love_Black_Sockings, a resilient and beautiful female player who had managed to survive until now, perfectly fit their criteria.

Just the thought of this proud woman eventually bowing down under their control, at their mercy, excited them. They couldn’t contain such anticipation.

“She also possesses a key, and with the two keys we have, we can unlock that ancient ruins. Once we obtain the treasures and resources inside the ruins, conquering the entire King Kong Island will be within our reach!”

“That’s right, the key is the key. As long as...”

Before the sentence could be finished, a commotion was heard from outside.

“We have enemies!!!”

The three of them exchanged glances, and they all saw the surprise in each other’s eyes.

Could it be that the woman really took the initiative to launch an attack with her army? Wasn’t she afraid of being counter-attacked in her territory?

They quickly rushed outside, but the situation they encountered was far from what they expected.

There was only one enemy.

A man.

At this moment, he stood by the lake, surrounded by hundreds of units, tightly encircling him at the lakeside..

Chapter 160: Dividing the Forces, One Man Overcomes the Enemy (2)

However, it was strange that despite being surrounded by so many units, this man remained unfazed, standing with his hands behind his back.

“Who is this person? Could he be a native?”

“I don’t know, let’s go and see.”

The three of them walked over with a puzzled expression, but before they could speak, the man’s calm gaze turned towards them.

“Are you the players and lords of this territory?”

In his tone, there was a sense of indifference and confidence.

As soon as they heard the word “players”, they realized that he was one of them.

“May I know who you are? Are you a player from the island? Why have you come to my territory?”

The man’s extremely calm expression and tone made the usually cautious square-faced player feel uncertain for a moment.

Why was this man so calm despite being surrounded by so many units?

Could it be that this man didn’t realize that he was heavily surrounded?

With this thought in mind, the square-faced player’s expression changed. Could there be an ambush nearby, attempting to launch a surprise attack on them?

“It doesn’t matter who I am. I am not a player from the island. I have come on behalf of someone. But you haven’t answered my question. Did you harass the territory to the south?”

The tone remained calm, with a hint of indifference.

The other two players immediately started cursing vehemently upon hearing this.

“Who do you think you are? How dare you come here alone? Don’t you know we can kill you anytime?”

“You damn bastard! Do you believe that I can smash your head to pieces?”

Ji Chen looked coldly at the two players spewing profanities, and in his heart, he had already passed their death sentences.

Although their fate was sealed the moment they appeared here.

“Shut up!”

Just as the two were cursing loudly, the square-faced player shouted sternly, interrupting them.

The more Ji Chen acted this way, the more wary he became.

With such composure, there must be an ambush! Otherwise, how could he have the audacity to come alone?

“Sir, you are not a player from the island, and it seems we have no grievances with you?”

Ji Chen smiled. “The female player in the territory to the south also seems to have no grievances with you. You want to annex her territory for your own benefit. So why can’t I come here to resolve you for my own benefit?”

At this moment, they instantly understood that Ji Chen was the reinforcement invited by that woman.

The square-faced player’s expression turned cold. “So, it was that despicable woman who invited you. But you have quite the audacity to say that you want to deal with us. Very well, please bring out your army and fight us head-on. Let’s see if you have the ability.”

Ji Chen shook his head gently. “I am here alone.”

“One person? Are you kidding, sir?”

“Look around you. Is there anywhere to hide someone?”

The square-faced player looked around. The surroundings were all grasslands and lakes, with only the possibility of amphibious units hiding in the lakes.

He immediately ordered two teams of military units to jump into the lake and conduct a thorough search.

Upon receiving the news that the lake was empty, a surge of anger rushed through the face of the national leader.

So there really wasn't an ambush army. Did his previous caution make him look like a clown?

Seeing a faint smile on Ji Chen's face, anger suddenly burned within him.

Damn it! How dare Ji Chen deceive him?

Considering Ji Chen's lack of an army, what is the source of their confidence in claiming that a single individual can defeat them?

The unit leader's eyes turned cold, roaring, "Attack! Tear him to pieces!!"

The hundreds of surrounding troops roared and charged towards Ji Chen, their sharp weapons shining with a cold light as if to pierce through him.

Ji Chen remained calm, watching the enemies rushing towards him, a slight curve appearing at the corner of his mouth.

He raised both hands.

Within moments, ripples disturbed the tranquil lake behind him, as the previously scattered and ethereal water transformed into formidable blades with a resolute structure. In a mere span of three seconds, an array of water blades, countless in number, emerged and occupied the sky.

These transparent blades showcased a mesmerizing interplay of light, reflecting vibrant hues of sunlight. Yet, beneath their enchanting beauty, an unsettling essence of imminent demise emanated, casting a chilling aura.

Seeing this scene, the unit leader and the two players were dumbfounded.

What is this?

A tremendous sense of danger descended upon them.

In the next moment, the unit leader's pupils shrank.

Ji Chen, with a calm expression, waved his hand lightly.

The water blades in the sky went from still to in motion, descending rapidly.

Swish—

The sky rained down merciless "drops", piercing into the crowd.

The high-speed, razor-sharp water blades cut through flesh like piercing paper, cleanly slicing through bodies.

Wave after wave of water blades continued to rain down, lacking a daunting presence but producing the continuous swishing sound of cutting flesh. The two sounds intertwined, forming a funeral melody that was both pleasant and chilling.

After one minute.

"Phew—"

Ji Chen took a deep breath, the mana pendant on his right hand slowly glowing, replenishing his mana.

The grassy field before him was covered in layer upon layer of flesh and blood.

Yes, it was layer upon layer of flesh and blood.

The army that was standing before him originally was now like a piece of meat being continuously cut and dissected by a skillful butcher, until no intact human form could be seen.

In the past, Ji Chen could only release the water blades haphazardly, but now, as his level increased, his control over water became more skilled and composed.

His control and destructive power had increased many times compared to when he first obtained the Tide Lord profession.

A layer of flesh suddenly arched upward, blood flowing from the eyes of the unit leader. He crawled out from within, blood covering his face, and looked at Ji Chen with an expression of horror.

Did players at this stage really possess such strength?

With just one strike, he killed all their troops directly.

If he hadn't reacted in time and used a shield artifact, he would have likely turned into a pile of flesh and blood on the ground like the other two players.

His body trembled uncontrollably.

The fear in his heart reached its peak when the man turned his gaze toward him.

The unit leader's mental state collapsed, tears and snot flowing down as he kneeled on the ground and begged for mercy.

"Don't kill me! I'm willing to give you everything!"

"I can take you to their territory and help you absorb their population and resources. I can give you my territory, I just beg you to spare me..."

Splat-

The unit leader's eyes widened as he looked down at the water blade piercing his heart. He felt a sweetness in his throat as blood flowed from the corners of his mouth. His voice became hoarse as he gasped for breath twice before weakly falling to the ground.

"Even if you're dead, I can still obtain everything you have," Ji Chen said coldly, his gaze icy and merciless.

At the same time, in the other three territories.

Anina swung her sword forcefully, shaking off the blood that stained it.

In front of her, the ground was littered with broken corpses.

She had eliminated all the remaining enemies.

Looking at the trembling ordinary residents nearby, Anina narrowed her eyes and smiled shyly.

"Don't be afraid, I'm a good person... a good fish. I won't harm you."

Upon hearing these words, the ordinary residents became even more frightened. They had witnessed firsthand how this sword-wielding girl single-handedly wiped out the entire army in their territory.

And she told them not to be afraid!?

Alice, the lady, sat elegantly under a tree, supporting her beautiful face with a hand that had fins. She gazed into the distance where the Naga warrior and Dragon Blood Murloc were cleaning up the remains. Gradually, her mind started to wander.

If one ignored the fins on her ears, she looked like a human girl yearning for her loved one.

Hmm, it had already been two hours and twenty-two minutes since she separated from her lord. She missed him.

“Report to Lord Benbo! Can we eat these human corpses? It would be a waste to discard them!”

“No, we cannot! Lord’s orders are clear, we must not consume the deceased humans!”

“What about the ones who are still alive?”

“Absolutely not!!!”

“All spoils, whether dead or alive, must be handled according to Lord’s command! Anyone who dares to act without authorization will be severely punished!”

“Yes! Long live the great Salted Fish King! Hooray!!!”