

Ocean Lord 511

Chapter 511: Zunong Wants to See Ji Chen, You're Here? Part of the Plan (2)

“As long as this objective is achieved, you can also obtain unimaginable enormous benefits from it. Don't you feel even a hint of temptation?”

Ji Chen's words made Zunong furrow his brows. It wasn't entirely true that he wasn't tempted, but what Ji Chen was proposing seemed too insane. This was a kingdom with a million troops, countless elites, hundreds of cities, and a kingdom-level force with formidable naval fleets!

It was not something they could challenge, even for the entire Wasteland Guild.

Ji Chen ignored his changing expression and continued with a casual tone, “The natives aren't as frightening as you think. They are people too, and they are not invincible to us.

Just like the setbacks they faced in Feiguang City. Compared to players, the natives are like a massive pile of code, long in development time, but essentially just as bloated and overweight as a three-hundred-pound fat guy.

As long as we are given enough time, we will undoubtedly surpass them quickly, no longer dependent on others. Don't you want the Wasteland Guild to become an independent and powerful entity?”

These words seeped into Zunong's mind like insidious poison. Even though he knew Ji Chen was trying to manipulate him, he couldn't help but contemplate this potential future.

Zunong wasn't always in command of a powerful army from the beginning. He had to gather like-minded members and build the guild through hard work, enduring disdain, discrimination, and exclusion from the natives.

The bitterness and hardships hidden within this journey were known only to him.

However, hearing Ji Chen's words, a strong sense of curiosity arose in Zunong's heart. What had really happened in Feiguang City that day?

So he asked.

Ji Chen didn't expect this sudden question and responded with some confusion, “Weren't you working for the Bass Kingdom? How come you accepted the bounty without knowing what happened back then? They didn't inform you? That's strange...”

These words left Zunong feeling suffocated.

While he found it odd, Ji Chen didn't seem to hide anything and briefly described the events.

Zunong's eyes went from being shadowed with suspicion to astonishment, and finally to silence. The warm and radiant sunlight couldn't reach his lowered face, and his eyes were shrouded in darkness.

He attempted to see a trace of guilt or falsehood in Ji Chen's eyes, but to his disappointment, Ji Chen's gaze remained as calm as a still lake, perpetually confident and genuine.

And when he saw a water orb in Ji Chen's hand that seemed to contain terrifying energy akin to a nuclear bomb, combined with the fragmentary pieces of information he had heard on his journey, he had no choice but to believe this fact.

Ji Chen, with his own strength, captured the Eighth Fleet and defeated the Bass Kingdom's army attacking Feiguang City.

Such a powerful individual, can the Wasteland Guild really contend with him?

At this moment, Zunong's heart was filled with anger and frustration towards the Bass Kingdom. His face contorted, and his body tensed.

Damn it, what did those native bastards think of them as?

Dogs?

Even dog owners knew to take care of their dogs and not let them launch meaningless attacks on lions.

This was like using them as cannon fodder!

They were mere disposable pawns which they used once after sending them to deal with Ji Chen and the players of the Lienhardt faction.

Observing Zunong's unusual demeanor, Ji Chen was somewhat able to guess what was going on.

In a solemn tone, he said, "If I'm guessing correctly, the Bass Kingdom's army is once again at the gates of Feiguang City. They seize this opportunity to pull out the nail that threatens to invade the Lienhardt capital.

According to their plan, the Bass Kingdom camp, including a large group of your players and guild, will engage in meaningless battles with the Lienhardt faction's players, guilds, and me, all for the sake of a small bounty, causing mutual harm."

"I, on behalf of the Wasteland Guild, accept your proposal."

"Who knows, they might not even pay in the end..." Ji Chen paused, looking at Zunong, who was determined. He then smiled, "Very well, it seems we have reached a preliminary consensus."

Zunong's face revealed the enthusiasm only young people possessed. His posture straightened, and he appeared full of vigor. It was a far cry from his previous appearance, which, despite his authority and confidence, couldn't conceal the shadowy and submissive side of him.

After all, they were players known as the Fourth Catastrophe!

How could they be bent over by something like this!?

"We come from another dimension, bearing a certain mission to this world. Though we may have thrived in the muddy mire and murky waters, we still share the same sky with those who reside in this world. We must make the people of this world look up to us!"

Zunong's tone grew somber as he continued, "Ji Chen, you are the first player I've encountered in this timeline who has maintained such self-confidence and strength. To be honest, I envy you.

I hope you can continue like this. Over the past few months, I've seen too many players falling into despair... including myself.

I'll remember what you just said. I hope you'll remain steadfast in carrying out this plan and survive in the hands of the Bass Kingdom. Otherwise, I won't lead my entire guild of brothers to follow you into danger."

Ji Chen became extremely serious, speaking with utmost solemnity, "I, as the Lord of the Ocean Crown, ruler of the New Moon Islands, master of the Stormy Sea, and heir of the Tidal Dominator, solemnly promise that I will firmly execute my plan, just as I have steadfastly defended this place."

Zunong's worried expression faded, replaced by a smile. "Damn it, can your Lord's Mansion accommodate so many people?"

Ji Chen paused for a moment, then smiled and replied, "Certainly, my house is quite large. If you have the time, you can also stay there for a while."

Zunong nodded with a smile and didn't say much.

Zunong left, taking the soldiers back to the high ground.

As he turned around, he happened to see Ji Chen's figure disappearing at the town entrance.

Other members of the Wasteland Guild noticed his return and gathered around. They suddenly felt that their guild leader seemed different, but they couldn't quite put their finger on it.

However, they quickly dismissed the thought and asked, "Guild Leader, should we continue the fight?"

Looking at the nearly two hundred members around him, all of them filled with trust, Zunong felt incredibly gratified and nodded without hesitation.

"Of course, we'll continue, and we'll make it spectacular!"

Members exchanged glances, their eyes filled with soaring determination, and they exclaimed together.

"F*ckhim!"

"Damn it, what's a Tier 5 unit to us? I'll drown you in a sea of troops!"

"United we stand, divided we fall! Urah!"

A deep, muffled sound echoed through the sky as horns made from bull horns resounded.

Wasteland Guild soldiers, like a swarm of locusts, descended from the high ground, rushing toward the blazing town. In the town, "Sea Tribe monsters" were numerous, their faces displaying cold and ruthless expressions, appearing particularly fearsome in the flickering flames.

This scene resembled the legendary tales told by bards throughout the continent, tales of a "multiracial alliance" fighting against foreign tribes.

In reality, however, the side of the “multiracial alliance” had been influenced by sinful motives, while the foreign tribes were forced to defend themselves.

To avoid a scenario where, similar to the Huluo brothers’ tale of rescuing their grandfather one by one, Zunong employed a straightforward and ruthless strategy. He kept sending troops, maintained constant pressure, and gradually wore down Ji Chen’s forces.

If ten thousand wasn’t enough, send fifty thousand; if fifty thousand wasn’t enough, send a hundred thousand, until the enemy was completely eliminated!

He just wouldn’t believe it. Over three hundred thousand troops couldn’t wear down those mere six thousand fifth-tier units!

As the battle unfolded, Ji Chen also sensed Zunong’s determination and couldn’t help but smile. He, too, felt a spark of interest.

If you want it this way, then we’ll play along.

At this moment, on a chessboard with an established trajectory, two pieces no longer followed the puppeteer’s thoughts and began to act unnoticed but with remarkable harmony.

After a short break overnight, when the horn that seemed to carry the scent of gunpowder was blown again, the unrelenting slaughter and war were part of the plan.

Watching the fiery battle raging on, Zunong stood atop the high ground, full of enthusiasm, a mad grin tugging at the corners of his mouth.

Toppling a kingdom... perhaps that was quite an interesting proposition.

The other members of the Wasteland Guild watched their guild leader suddenly flash a sinister and maniacal smile, causing a shiver down their spines. Every time their guild leader showed such an expression, it meant someone was in for trouble.

So, the unlucky one should be that player named Ji Chen, right... probably.... right?

Chapter 512: The Second Attack of the Kingdom of Bass,

The Royal First Fleet, The Opportunity Has Arrived

“Marshal, the Wasteland Guild has successfully cornered Ji Chen on that peninsula. Meanwhile, both our allies and the Glory Lords from the Lienhardt Grand Duchy are converging in that same direction.

Your strategy is really killing two birds with one stone. Firstly, it allows us to avenge our previous loss at Feiguang City. Secondly, it draws away those troublesome Glory Lords, creating a second opportunity for us to attack Feiguang City!

And the cost is only a few gold coins and rare resources,” the Chief of Staff said flatteringly to the man in front of him.

Russell’s face showed a hint of pride. “Hmph, let those Glory Lords fight amongst themselves; that’s their limited value and purpose.”

“How far is Feiguang City?”

“After crossing these hills, we’ll be there.”

Soon, the two hundred thousand troops of the Bass Kingdom crossed the rolling hills and saw the towering city by the sea.

Russell, sitting on his horse, couldn’t help but feel excited and ambitious.

As long as they wiped this city off the map, they would need only three days to reach the gates of Tressburg City, and the nation would be engulfed in the flames of war.

As the Marshal commanding the three armies, his prestige would reach its peak in this war of annihilation.

After a few days, many of Feiguang City’s defensive structures and fortifications had been repaired. However, the massive breach on the south side of the city wall, which was hundreds of meters wide, remained open. Only a simple slope made of broken wall bricks and soil had been piled up to a height of about ten meters at the breach. Just a few days were not enough for the garrison of Feiguang City to repair such a large breach.

High on the city walls, Sylvansai looked at the Bass Kingdom’s army that had begun to camp ten miles away, his eyes showing a trace of concern.

He hadn’t expected that just a few days later, Russell would be so relentless in launching a second attack, and the banner he raised was still the same one he personally brought.

Beside him, his trusted subordinate said, “Lord of the City, we’ve received quite a bit of support from the rear these past few days. Our forces have been replenished to fifty thousand, and our supplies are ample. We might be able to hold off the enemy.”

Sylvansai shook his head gently. Feiguang City had suffered heavy losses even with its complete walls when facing an enemy force of a hundred thousand. This time, with the enemy force reaching two hundred thousand and Feiguang City lacking the protection of complete walls, if the Bass Kingdom were to launch another bombardment like they did that day, the other side of the city wall would break again, and no matter how many troops they had, they wouldn’t be able to hold it.

“Alas, we can only take it one step at a time.”

His trusted subordinate had a look of puzzlement on his face. “It’s been several days already. Tressburg City should have received our message by now. They should also know the importance of Feiguang City. Why haven’t they sent reinforcements?”

Sylvansai wore an expression of “who can I ask” on his face, eventually turning it into a sigh.

Regardless, as the lord of the city, he knew he had to stand by the city, for as long as the city existed, its people had a chance.

But thoughts of Ji Chen, who disappeared without a word a few days earlier, left him with mixed emotions—hope, disappointment, and a hint of relief.

Ji Chen wasn’t originally from Lienhardt, and his earlier rescue of Feiguang City was a significant favor. Sylvansai couldn’t rely on him to swoop in and save them every time.

Lienhardt needed to be saved by its own people.

When Lord Ji Chen departed, it was for the best. With his abilities, as long as he retreated into the vast sea, not even the fleet of the Kingdom of Bas could harm him.

Meanwhile, the Ji Chen who left without notice was resisting wave after wave of enemy attacks on a peninsula fifty kilometers away, diverting a large amount of firepower away from Feiguang City.

After meeting with Zunong for a day, solo players, groups of players, and guilds from various places gradually arrived here.

However, when they saw the tens of thousands of corpses that had spread from the abandoned town into the grasslands outside, their faces couldn't help but change.

Ravens and vultures, as numerous as dark clouds in the sky, circled overhead, eagerly watching for an opportunity to feast.

Next, their gazes turned to Zunong, who stood on the elevated terrain with a dark expression. Some of them couldn't help but smirk with satisfaction, but beneath that, confusion also lingered in their minds.

Even the Wasteland Guild hadn't managed to resolve the situation so far, and instead, so many people had died. Who was this player named Ji Chen?

"Brother Zunong, it seems your Wasteland Guild isn't doing well."

A man with a sinister face, sharp eyes, and an ominous presence walked over amidst the crowd of hundreds of players.

Although they addressed each other as brothers, it didn't hide the gloating in his words.

Zunong glanced at him without saying anything. This man was Pando, the leader of another player guild in the Bass Kingdom, the Jungle Guild. Their guild's strength was second only to the Wasteland Guild, and they had often clashed over territorial disputes.

Seeing that Zunong didn't respond, Pando's face immediately revealed a disinterested expression. He looked at the abandoned town, which was about to fall into dusk once again, and made a suggestion.

"Why don't we, the Jungle Guild, give it a try? After all, you've been struggling for two days and still haven't dealt with a small solo player."

Zunong's eyes flared with anger, and he stared at Pando as if provoked. After a long while, he squeezed out a few words from between his teeth.

"Then go ahead and try. Let's see if you can handle this tough nut."

Pando shrugged indifferently, watching as Zunong left in a huff, and even a trace of disdain appeared on his face.

His subordinate whispered beside him, "They sent so many people these two days and still haven't defeated a solo player. The Wasteland Guild has really fallen.."

Chapter 513: The Second Attack of the Kingdom of Bass,

The Royal First Fleet, The Opportunity Has Arrived (2)

“It seems that this time, the bounty will be in the hands of our Jungle Guild. When that happens, the Kingdom of Bass will take notice of us and commence supporting us. Thus, surpassing the Wasteland Guild is only a matter of time.” Pando heard this and nodded in agreement. Could a mere player truly pose a threat to their Jungle Guild?

He was tempted while thinking about the massive resources that the Kingdom of Bass was providing to the Wasteland Guild.

Without further hesitation, he immediately ordered the attack.

Little did he know that he was facing an opponent he couldn't shake or match.

Nighttime.

Thousands of miles away in the Kingdom of Bass.

Inland coastal city, Ilkand.

This city, with its vast size and a major military port, was the second-largest city in the country. Even though the Kingdom of Bass was at war with Lienhardt, this place still appeared bustling and lively.

Shops on both sides of the streets stayed open day and night. Alchemical lamps created captivating lights, and neon lights from taverns, casinos, department stores, and even brothels illuminated the city, making it a place that never slept.

Even the tall city walls couldn't conceal the radiant lights. Beams of alchemical light shot from the ground into the sky, as if illuminating even the gloomy heavens.

The Ninth Fleet of the Kingdom of Bass was stationed here, tasked with guarding hundreds of kilometers of coastline. However, most of the fleet's ships were currently docked, and the sailors on duty were drinking heavily in their cabins.

Were they afraid of enemy attacks?

Humph, their biggest enemy, Lienhardt, was currently being crushed by Marshal Russell's expeditionary force, with their territory falling and engulfed in warfare. They were too busy to spare the time and resources to launch an attack thousands of miles away in the open sea.

Even if an enemy did come, they weren't afraid. They would make the enemy understand their power!

In the dreams of some of the sailors who were already deep asleep, they were punching Lienhardt, kicking the coastal areas to the northwest, and even sailing their warships to the capital of the Silvermoon Dynasty, where they plundered freely, adorned with jewelry, and slept with two beautiful elf maidens.

While these sailors were dreaming away, a shrill alarm abruptly awakened them.

“Enemy attack!”

Dozens of large lamps instantly pierced the night, illuminating a dark stretch of the ocean.

However, in the next moment, they witnessed a scene that made their souls tremble, and their pupils contracted sharply.

A massive fleet of steel warships was slowly moving less than two kilometers away from them, with alchemical cannons on their sides radiating a menacing black aura, all pointed at them.

And the flags already flying on the ships revealed their identity.

The Kingdom of Lienhardt, Royal First Fleet.

“It’s impossible...” mumbled a naval officer who had just awakened from a dream.

According to the information they received, the Royal First Fleet was constantly guarding the capital of the Kingdom of Lienhardt, Tressburg. They should never leave so easily.

Just like their Ninth Fleet guarding Ilkand.

But how could such a fleet appear here, thousands of miles away?

The officer seemed to be in disbelief, rubbing his eyes vigorously and looking again.

“Damn it! The enemy is the Royal First Fleet of Lienhardt! Start the warships and prepare to face them! What about our coastal artillery positions!?”

The sailors were in a state of panic.

“Sir, starting the warships will take at least half an hour. There’s no response from the coastal artillery positions. The soldiers there are probably either drunk or out looking for fun.”

The officer trembled with anger, “These idiots!! They dared to go out during their duty hours!?”

He cursed without realizing that he had been drinking heavily himself.

“I must bring them to a military tribunal...”

“Sir, take a look.”

The trembling voice of a sailor made him stop and look into the distance.

In the direction of the Royal First Fleet of Lienhardt, hundreds of orange-red flames suddenly appeared, and then their harbor and warships were engulfed in a blaze, explosions erupting like firecrackers.

In the dark night, mandalas of orange-red blossomed, pulling the soldiers into an inferno of flames and explosions.

Perhaps it was a main cannon shell that exploded in a warehouse hundreds of meters away from him. The intense shockwave sent the officer flying, crashing heavily against a railing, feeling like several of his bones had just been shortened.

The officer, who managed to get up from the ground, now had a look of terror and despair in his eyes.

It was over, everything was over.

After destroying the warships and the naval base, without sparing any shells, they continued to fire at the civilian harbor.

One by one, merchant ships near the mouth of the harbor sank amidst the explosions, completely blocking the entrance and exit. Even the surviving ships that might still be operational couldn't get through.

This was also one of the objectives of the Royal First Fleet.

To first cut off Ilkand's maritime route for external communication.

Taking advantage of the element of surprise after destroying Ilkand's warships, dozens of transport ships that had been hiding behind released landing craft one after another, bypassing the city's defensive weapons on the walls and landing on the mudflats beyond their range.

Watching the marines forming up in squads on the mudflats, a senior officer of the Lienhardt Navy looked serious.

"On the orders of the Grand Duke, we've rushed here from thousands of miles away, becoming the first wave of troops to land in the Empire in this war. We should feel the utmost honor.

But from now on, we need to strive for more glory and medals. Each team will follow the previously agreed-upon plan, capture the outposts on the inland road leading to Ilkand, form guerrilla teams in the forests, block information, and cut off Ilkand's communication with the outside world.

Just like the Kingdom of Bass did to Feiguang City!

The longer we delay, the more advantageous it is for the Principality, and the more likely we are to win this unjust war!

Everyone, move out!"

"Yes!"

Their thunderous shouts expressed their determination as they swiftly entered the thick forests, launching surprise attacks on Ilkand's outposts.

Two days later, when the news of the sneak attack on Ilkand City was deliberately released and reached the capital of the Kingdom of Bass, the entire city was in an uproar.

Ilkand, as the second-largest city in the Kingdom of Bass and one of the most important naval ports in the middle of the ocean, was supposed to be protected by the Ninth Fleet.

The fact that it had been attacked so easily by the enemy left them extremely shocked.

The Royal Second to Seventh Fleets of Lienhardt were all tied up at sea, so where did this fleet, which appeared like a ghost, come from?

Due to the blockade of Ilkand City, they couldn't get any information from there, like a shadow on their intelligence network, leaving them anxious—just as they had previously blocked Feiguang City.

Moreover, they were worried about the vast stockpile of resources, including supplies, food, ammunition, weapons, and more, stored within the city. The quantity of alchemical cannonballs alone in the arsenal could supply ten fleets a hundred times over.

These reserves were originally meant for expeditions.

As a result, a controversy erupted within the court of the Kingdom of Bass.

The hawkish faction believed in continuing the expedition and sending troops from the capital to break the siege and regain control of Ilkand City.

The dovish faction, on the other hand, believed that they should recall the other fleets and even the expeditionary force. Otherwise, if Ilkand City really fell, the impact on the kingdom would be extraordinarily significant.

Sitting on the throne behind the pearl curtains, the king listened to the arguments of his courtiers, and his impatient voice rang out.

“Silence!”

The courtiers all fell silent, looking toward the vague figure.

The king turned to the deceiver standing behind him, wearing a mask.

“Advisor, what do you think?”

The deceiver emitted a sharp, eunuch-like voice.

“Hehe, Your Majesty- Ilkand City has strong defenses, not something a fleet coming from a thousand miles away can break through. I estimate that Lienhardt simply wants to block the information, unsettle us, and hinder the supply lines to the front.

But leaving it alone isn’t a good idea either, so why not send out a small number of soldiers and then issue commissions to those glory lords? As long as there’s enough profit, those cuties will certainly complete the commissions without hesitation.”

Despite the courtiers’ strong aversion to the deceiver who had seemingly emerged out of nowhere and quickly gained the trust of His Majesty, they found this suggestion to be quite favorable. It wouldn’t require diverting too many forces to defend the capital, saving a substantial amount of military expenses. They only needed to pay a minuscule fraction to compel those glory lords to work for them, achieving the goal of defending Ilkand City.

A good idea!

“Let’s proceed with that.”

In his tent, Zunon sat in a chair, watching the commissions from the Kingdom of Bass regarding the recapture of Ilkand City posted on the forum, his eyes shining.

Wait, it seemed like he was given an opportunity....

Chapter 514: Retreat, Who Is This Person?

Players from all corners witnessed the terrifying prowess of a player named Ji Chen.

In the wake of the Wasteland Guild's abandonment of tens of thousands of troops in the grasslands and abandoned towns, the number of corpses doubled once again. Tens of thousands of resentful spirits swirled overhead, emitting bitter cries.

This left everyone puzzled.

Who was this person, really?

Pando watched as another wave of over ten thousand troops from the Jungle Guild entered the town but not a single one came out. His face twisted with shock and rage.

"That bastard, Zunong, he knew all along that Ji Chen wasn't easy to deal with. He didn't even warn me before!"

"Motherfucker, does he want to weaken my strength with this method, so they can secure the position of the top guild in the Kingdom of Bass? That's despicable!!"

Watching Pando curse and grumble, his confidant standing nearby couldn't help but feel speechless. After all, the Wasteland Guild had been attacking for a full two days without success, so it was quite obvious that this wasn't an easy opponent...

Although he thought this way, he wisely refrained from saying it out loud.

He asked, "Boss, it's only been a day, and we've lost nearly a hundred thousand troops. But there's no sign of weakness on their side. If we keep going like this, we might not even succeed in taking them down even if we use up our entire army. Should we... continue?"

"Of course! Why wouldn't we continue!?" Pando had the appearance of a stubborn man who would see things through to the end. He gritted his teeth and said,

"Motherfucker, if we withdraw like this, wouldn't that mean we have wasted so many troops for nothing?"

Besides, Ji Chen isn't invincible. I refuse to believe we can't deal with him!"

Pando had been in this world for a long time and never encountered an independent player with such incredible strength. Those units of fifth-tier troops, each consisting of a thousand people, were incredibly intimidating. He even thought he might have encountered a figure like the Islander.

However, even though he lost so many troops, he couldn't afford not to continue the battle. He just talked to that little rascal Zunong earlier, telling him that they would take over, but to say they couldn't hold out after just one day was like slapping himself in the face.

Blood could be shed, but pride could not be lost.

Just as Pando was thinking of sending more troops to attack, someone suddenly privately messaged him.

Taking a closer look, his eyes widened.

What the hell?

Several hours later, when Pando, the leader of the Jungle Guild, angrily left after throwing his troops into yet another attack and achieving no results, the onlookers were in an uproar.

With the Wasteland Guild in front and the Jungle Guild behind, both major guilds had been defeated by a player named Ji Chen. This was a rare occurrence.

Some players knew better than to persist and chose to withdraw, despite the tempting bounty. They understood that it required the capability to claim it. They stood by and watched.

However, some small guilds and independent players were not willing to give up. They wanted to verify it for themselves. Yet, when they sent what they considered powerful troops into the abandoned town, none of them returned. They were left dumbfounded and shouted in frustration.

This was too outrageous. How could a mere few thousand troops stop them?

Just when they were at a loss, fifty kilometers away in Feiguang City.

The flames of war once again spread across this land. Hundreds of cannonballs soared high into the sky, bypassing the city walls and wreaking havoc on the recently repaired fortifications. A sky filled with arrows accompanied by the sound of breaking wind pierced through flesh.

Soldiers of the Kingdom of Bass surged forward like a tide, intent on devouring all living beings within the city.

As Russell watched the city, increasingly on the brink of collapse under the onslaught of the large army, the wicked grin on his face became more pronounced, and his mood grew even more exhilarated.

This is the fate of those who oppose him.

No one could stop them from conquering Feiguang City, from laying waste to the Lienhardt Grand Duchy!

After annihilating Lienhardt, they would continue to march against the other two nations along the northwest coast, unifying this land completely, fulfilling the great ambition left unaccomplished by their predecessors. Russell, in this glorious vision of the future, would rise to unprecedented prominence!

Russell seemed to have already envisioned this bright future. He drew his long sword and pointed it forward, shouting with authority.

“Spread my command! The Second Pegasus Knight Squad, advance! Use alchemical bombs to assist our allies in breaching the city walls!”

With that order, a squad of a thousand Pegasus Knights quickly took flight from the camp, flapping their wings as they soared over the breached section of the city walls, dropping alchemical bombs onto the defending forces.

This became the final straw that broke the camel’s back. The raised earthworks and the soldiers guarding the breached city wall crumbled as the alchemical bombs exploded, creating numerous holes. Countless soldiers of the Kingdom of Bass swarmed in like wild beasts, ferociously attacking.

On the other side, the city gate on the western wall finally succumbed to the relentless bombardment and explosions. It collapsed with a thunderous crash, and the soldiers of the Kingdom of Bass flooded in like locusts, engaging in a furious battle with the city’s defenders.

In the eyes of the defenders, Feiguang City had become like a faint candlelight in a storm, extinguishing at any moment.

Despair and helplessness flickered in the eyes of Sylvansai on the city wall.

Feiguang City was destined to fall...

Russell burst into wild laughter, mocking the feeble resistance of the enemy.

At this moment, a squad of giant eagle archers from the direction of the Kingdom of Bass arrived, bearing a letter from the king. They landed in the military camp.

Soon, a roar filled with bitterness and anger echoed from within the camp, as Russell received the king's letter..

Chapter 515: Retreat, Who Is This Person (2)

“Convey my orders, everyone retreat!”

The soldiers who received this order had puzzled expressions. They were on the verge of capturing Feiguang City, so why suddenly call for a retreat? However, military orders were absolute. Despite their confusion and disbelief, many soldiers began commanding their troops to withdraw.

The once bustling battlefield now felt deserted, leaving the Feiguang City defenders dumbfounded. Though they didn't know what had transpired, they couldn't help but cheer.

A high-ranking officer from the Bass Kingdom who had been commanding on the front lines hurried back. He saw General Russell sitting with a stern expression in his command seat and asked, “Marshal, why are we retreating when Feiguang City is about to fall?”

Russell remained silent, simply tossing a letter to the officer. Another officer picked up the letter and read it, his face turning pale.

“Two days ago, the Royal First Fleet of Lienhardt Royal Duchy raided Ilkand City from a thousand miles away, interrupting internal and external communications and cutting off reinforcements.

One day ago, the Thorey Kingdom and the Pelan Kingdom accepted Lienhardt's proposal and declared war on the Bass Kingdom. Their armies have already advanced to our borders.

...The expeditionary force must return at full speed to defend our homeland.” “How is this possible?” The officer expressed his disbelief, “How did they manage to do this?”

Russell looked weary. “Regardless of how, it's a fact now. Our supply lines have been cut, and we not only have to halt the attack on Feiguang City but also withdraw our forces back home.

Though the Thorey and Pelan Kingdoms are relatively weak, their alliance is not to be underestimated. Once their armies threaten the safety of our capital, the politicians and ministers will surely use this as an excuse to challenge us.” The officers clenched their fists in frustration. They paid a heavy price for this expedition, with tens of thousands of soldiers dying far from home. But now, they were ordered to retreat like rats fleeing.

Russell saw the discontent in their eyes and a flame ignited in his own.

“We will return once more. None of this will defeat the great Bass Kingdom.

This land will eventually belong to us, and the mighty Bass Kingdom will reign supreme.”

“Report! The Bass Kingdom army is withdrawing!”

“Really?”

“Yes, we saw their camp has emptied.”

Sylvansai stood up from his chair, a mixture of confusion and joy on his face.

Great, Feiguang City had been saved!

A soldier added, “But they seemed to have left in great haste, leaving behind a lot of supplies...”

After the initial joy, Sylvansai stroked his chin in thought.

Russell had given up the almost easily acquired prize of Feiguang City, which meant there must be something even more important at play.

Before he could ponder further, a report came in.

“Lord, a messenger from Tressburg has arrived!”

Sylvansai’s eyes brightened. “Bring him in.”

A tired-looking messenger entered and handed over a letter sealed with a fiery emblem.

Sylvansai opened it immediately, and after reading the last word, his face gradually lit up with determination. He exclaimed “Good, good, good!” three times in succession.

Then, he dispelled the previous air of defeat, his eyes shining brightly.

“Convey my orders, send soldiers to a peninsula fifty kilometers west from here to assist with Lord Ji Chen!

Lord Ji Chen must be protected at all costs, as this is the second time he has helped us!”

“Yes!”

At this moment, Ji Chen was still leading the Ocean Crown forces in a fierce battle against the players.

Driven by the desire for rewards and their inner greed, they had become consumed by madness, determined to break through the abandoned town. Thousands of troops were thrown into this small peninsula, gradually sealing off the land inside and out.

Under the relentless assault that continued for days without respite, even the mighty Ocean Crown forces suffered losses.

Four-fifths of the Naga Guardians and Dragon Blood Murlocs fell, but the Lobster Guardian Knights and Dragon Horn Catfish remained intact.

Currently, in the entire abandoned town, only a small area near the tail end of the peninsula remains under their control, while the rest has already fallen. Inside the abandoned church building, Ji Chen

and a group of heroes stood, listening to the approaching sounds of battle through the shattered windows. Yes.

Up to this point, Ji Chen had not allowed advanced heroes like Alice and Herald to join the battle. For days, they relied on mid-tier heroes and regular troops to resist the enemy.

“Lord, why don’t we join the battle now? The enemy is almost at our doorstep,” Herald said, his hand on his chest, ready to fight.

Ji Chen shook his head gently.

“It’s not time yet.”

After several days of battle, he had a fairly good understanding of the approximate strength of these players and guilds. They mainly relied on sheer numbers rather than individual strength, posing little real threat.

If that was the case, he could delay for every moment possible.

And time was precisely what Feiguang City needed.

As he watched the system notifications of the Ocean Crown forces falling one by one, Ji Chen’s heart grew heavier. Just when he was considering unleashing the heroes to delay the final wave of attackers...

Suddenly, a loud eagle’s cry echoed in the sky, followed by dozens of flying units plummeting from above.

These players watched in astonishment as the indigenous army approached them without hesitation.

Soon, someone shouted, “The Bass Kingdom’s army has already retreated; these are the defenders of Feiguang City!”

This caused instant chaos among them. They came here to attack Ji Chen with confidence, relying on the Bass Kingdom’s army that was supposed to attack Feiguang City. Now that the Bass Kingdom’s army had retreated, did that mean they had to retreat too?

But as they looked at Ji Chen, who was pushed to a dead end, there was a sense of unease in their hearts.

Just a little bit more!

Many players were unwilling to give up and wanted to continue their assault during this last moment.

However, Ji Chen emerged from the abandoned church at this moment, calmly looking at the thousands of enemy soldiers in front of him, and the players behind them.

“All of you should leave now. I don’t want to kill more people.”

His calm demeanor in the face of such a massive army left many players stunned. Then, the leader of a small guild sneered.

“If you were to give us a little more time, you’ll meet your end here!”

Ji Chen looked at him and sighed.

“Do you think you’ve pushed me to a dead end?”

“Otherwise?” The leader of the small guild frowned. “I admit that your Tier 5 units are strong, but I’m afraid there aren’t many left now, right?”

“Your last reliance is about to be resolved by us!”

“That’s right!”

“Yes, give us a little more time, and your army, no matter how strong, will be slaughtered here!”

Ji Chen looked at the players who were determined and full of anger, feeling somewhat speechless.

They are pushing their boundary, aren’t they?

Then, he slightly relaxed his furrowed brows, opened his palms, and a vast amount of mana surged out. Strands of seawater floated in the air, lifting him up in front of everyone’s eyes, and more seawater condensed behind him. Suddenly, these players felt that something was amiss.

Their faces gradually stiffened, showing the emotion called shock.

A colossal ocean giant, several tens of meters tall, materialized behind Ji Chen.

It was clad in armor, holding a giant spear, and its eyes were cold and imposing as if it possessed the might of the heavens.

The sea surged, but it couldn’t shake the giant in the slightest, as they were one and the same.

The massive ocean giant raised its hand deliberately, aiming its colossal spear at the group of players who believed they were safe, anticipating the order to wipe them out instantly.

Watching this scene, the players’ scalps went numb, and their mouths went dry.

The units surrounding them couldn’t provide even a hint of security.

Damn it.

What he said was true; this person actually possessed such terrifying power.

Just as they were at a loss, Ji Chen spoke calmly.

“My name is Ji Chen, and my forum name is also known as the Islander. If you have any grievances or grudges, you can come to me directly.”

Huh?

Countless players were stunned.

Then a colossal wave of emotions surged within them.

They were fighting all this time, and it turned out they were fighting the Islander?!

The famous Islander!!!

Chapter 516: Wang Shanyue, Meeting Monica Again, Gossip Flames

Tonight, silence served as the bridge for those gathered there.

Players present exchanged looks of astonishment and awe.

Their doubts vanished in an instant.

No wonder this person was so strong; he was none other than the Islander himself. Everything made sense now.

Some players who came from the mainland haven't heard much about this name and look puzzled, asking in hushed tones, "Is the Islander famous?"

A player nearby spat and replied, "Being called the number one player in the Western Mid-Ocean, isn't that famous enough for you?"

"Number one player..."

Looking at the towering ocean giant, a hint of recognition flashes in everyone's eyes.

Remembering the fierce attacks by the two major guilds earlier, and how they, with so many players, couldn't eliminate his army in days, they couldn't help but feel a sense of admiration.

"So, are we going to continue fighting?"

Someone cautiously asked.

"Fight my ass? Why bother? Can't you see that the Islander still has strength left? Besides, the defenders of Feiguang City will arrive soon, and I don't want to be stuck here getting beaten up."

As this statement was made, many players nodded in agreement and began ordering their armies to retreat.

Ten minutes later, the players and units that once filled the entire peninsula scattered in all directions, leaving it empty.

They came with such a show of force, but now they departed so lightly.

Apart from the thousands of corpses left behind, everything seems to return to its original state.

Ji Chen relaxed his brow, casually waving his hand as the ocean giant transformed into a spray of water, merging back into the sea.

Returning to the ground, he watched as over a hundred giant eagles circled in the skyland, and soldiers jumped down from them.

"Lord Ji Chen, the Lord of Sylvansai City has sent us to escort you back."

The leading centurion's expression was respectful, his tone deferential.

What courage this was.

Facing a powerful invader, Lord Ji Chen didn't choose to flee but instead came here voluntarily. He used a bounty to draw thousands of Glory Lords here, reducing the pressure on Feiguang City's defense and holding on until the last moment.

What's even more terrifying was that, even when facing so many enemies, he didn't exert his full strength. Just the three heroic units standing beside him emit an aura that made others shudder.

And Lord Ji Chen himself was a formidable presence capable of turning the tide of battle...

Seeing the centurion's increasingly respectful expression, Ji Chen casually waved his hand and said, "No need, I'll rest here for now."

The centurion hesitated, feeling a bit troubled.

"But the Lord of the city said we must bring you back. I heard that Princess Monica will be arriving soon."

Ji Chen's eyes light up. Monica is coming?

Come to think of it, he hadn't seen that lovely girl in several months. If she was coming to Feiguang City, it might be worth meeting her.

"All right, you go back first. I'll be there shortly."

The centurion nodded and boarded the giant eagle to return to Feiguang City with the message.

After these messenger soldiers departed, the entire peninsula was finally left with only them.

Stepping on the corpses strewn about, Ji Chen arrived at a high point and looked inland.

It seemed that the players had indeed left. Except for the remnants of the camp ruins, there was nothing alive on this grassy plain.

He turned around.

From the high ground to the abandoned town below, all that met the eye was a reddish-brown color. Blood had seeped into the soil and bricks, forming a stream of blood that twisted and spread on the ground like the capillaries of a human body.

The ground, bombarded by artillery and magical spells, was pockmarked with craters filled with countless bodies—humans, orcs, undead, sea creatures...

Hundreds of thousands, even millions of troops would forever remain there. On that land, all races were equal in death.

Watching that gruesome scene, Ji Chen remained calm, showing no signs of discomfort or pity.

One's triumph had led to the withering of countless lives.

What he could do was selectively bestow death.

Let the unjust and the greedy perish, while the loyal and upright survived.

Woo-

At that moment, a distant, muffled horn suddenly sounded again, and a massive player army appeared at the end of the grassland, coming into view.

Ji Chen instantly became alert. Could it be that those players hadn't given up and wanted to continue the fight?

"Stay alert, be ready to counterattack at any moment!"

The surviving Ocean Crown army showed no fear. With just a word from their lord, they could unleash their full combat power, rivaling their complete formation strength, and bring death to their enemies.

As that player's army approached, Ji Chen slowly raised his hand, preparing for a thunderous attack.

"Brothers, don't open fire!"

"We are allies!"

Ji Chen's expression momentarily froze, and he lowered his hand slowly.

Seeing this, the player army approached, led by a player in his thirties who seemed to be the leader of a guild.

He raised his hand to signal the army to stop several hundred meters away and then, along with a few players, climbed the high ground and greeted Ji Chen with a respectful smile.

"Brother Ji Chen, I'm Wang Shanyue, the president of the Shanyue Guild. Nice to meet you."

"I'm Ji Chen." Ji Chen nodded slightly and looked at the army not far away, numbering as many as four to five hundred thousand, asking, "Why did you come?"

"We are guilds from the Lienhardt Grand Duchy camp," Wang Shanyue said with an air of familiarity. "We've come to support you. Haven't you checked the forum?"

With great enthusiasm, he continued, "With us here, you don't have to fear those little rabbits from the Kingdom of Bass. This time, I've brought a whole three million troops. These are just the vanguard.."

Chapter 517: Wang Shanyue, Meeting Monica Again, Gossip Flames (2)

Ji Chen suddenly realized that these were the players and guilds of the Lienhardt Grand Duchy faction. However, it was a bit too late; they had already finished the battle.

He shook his head with a smile and said, "Thank you, but there's no need."

Wang Shanyue, with his mature demeanor, exuded a unique charm. He warmly replied, "No need to be so polite to us. You've been holding out on your own for so long. Our guild members admire you greatly.

Oh, by the way, what about the players from the Kingdom of Bass?"

Ji Chen gestured behind him.

Wang Shanyue's gaze passed over Ji Chen's shoulder and when he looked at the scene behind, his entire face froze.

His little brother standing beside him also stared in curiosity and froze in place, his eyes filled with shock.

In their line of sight.

From the high ground to the abandoned town, even inside the town, there were countless bodies strewn about. The soil was soaked with blood, turning it a reddish-brown color. Even the sea breeze that blew in carried a strong scent of blood.

If one were to describe it in one word, it would be a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood.

“This is...”

Wang Shanyue withdrew his gaze, still filled with shock.

Ji Chen shrugged and said, “As you can see, these are the player armies from the Kingdom of Bass who wanted to exchange me for a bounty. Unfortunately... they didn’t succeed and left their army here.”

Wang Shanyue fell silent for a moment and then said with a wry smile, “It seems, my friend, that you’ve taken care of those people. We arrived too late. We only got here when everyone had started looting...”

Ji Chen nodded and smiled, “That metaphor is quite apt.”

Wang Shanyue sighed. They hadn’t been able to rescue anyone this time, which meant they wouldn’t receive the rewards for the mission.

Putting aside the one billion gold coins and ten million units of rare resources, the control and lordship of a whole town were the main prizes. But now, it seemed like those rewards were out of reach. Thinking about it, he couldn’t help but feel a bit regretful.

Ji Chen didn’t notice Wang Shanyue’s thoughts and asked, “Now that there’s nothing left to do here, what are your plans?”

“We’ll probably join the war between Lienhardt and the Kingdom of Bass. After all, bringing such a large army from a distant place like this can’t be for nothing,” Wang Shanyue nodded.

As the saying goes, “Before the troops and horses move, the provisions should go first.” (T/N: This phrase emphasizes the importance of logistical preparation and supplies before engaging in any military or strategic operation.)

The sheer amount of resources used by this massive army of three million during their journey was immense. While the Shanyue guild was deeply concerned about the cost, they realized that unless they could benefit from the conflict between the two countries, they would face significant financial setbacks.

This was also why many large guilds could muster millions of troops but rarely used such a massive force.

“Since that’s the case, let’s head to Feiguang City first. The Lienhardt Grand Duchy should have a use for you there.”

“You’re right, Brother Ji Chen.”

They decided to travel together to Feiguang City.

During the journey, Ji Chen took the opportunity to learn about the current situation of the war.

He found out that Lienhardt had launched a surprise attack on a crucial city of the Kingdom of Bass and persuaded the Thorey Kingdom and the Pelan Kingdom to declare war on the Kingdom of Bass. The Bass expeditionary force was forced to retreat back to their homeland.

No wonder Feiguang City hadn't provided any reinforcements all this time. It turned out that Tressburg City had long made such plans and preparations.

Ji Chen nodded when he heard this. This turn of events had completely changed the course of the war. Lienhardt now had the upper hand, and they could choose to rest and recuperate or pursue the advantage further.

With this development, it seemed that the two hidden moves he made earlier might also have a greater impact...

"Brother Ji Chen, Feiguang City is just ahead."

Wang Shanyue's words brought Ji Chen, who was lost in thought, back to reality. After several days of absence, Feiguang City, which suffered a second attack by the Kingdom of Bass, was even more battered. There was not a single intact place in the entire city. Arrow towers were severed in half and stood alone behind the walls. The once smooth and towering city walls were now uneven with numerous pockmarks and holes.

The broken city gate indicated that the city was just a step away from being captured.

Ji Chen was about to step forward and enter the city when he saw a familiar yet unfamiliar figure running towards him with light and agile steps from the city gate.

"Lord Ji Chen!"

A voice as melodious as a valley's nightingale instantly caught everyone's attention.

Ji Chen looked at the graceful lady before him, and a genuine smile appeared on his face.

"Monica, it's been a while."

The person who arrived was Monica, whom he hadn't seen for a long time. She was currently dressed in a heroic hunting outfit, with a brown leather jacket draped over her graceful shoulders. Beneath a blue and white striped shirt, her slender, tight-fitting riding pants accentuated her long and shapely legs. A knight's sword hung from her waist, giving her a touch of valor.

At this moment, Monica's cheeks were slightly flushed from her sprint, making her look very cute.

Her excitement was evident between her brows.

Monica saw that Ji Chen was completely uninjured, and the worry that had been hidden in her heart dissipated. Replaced by joy, and her eyebrows arched like two crescent moons.

"Lord Ji Chen, I'm so relieved that you're unharmed. If my father finds out that I let the hero who saved Feiguang City twice get injured, he'll definitely scold me."

Ji Chen smiled and said, "They weren't enough to injure me, but... Monica, why did you come to Feiguang City?"

Monica had a charming smile on her face as she replied, "Of course, I came to see you... just kidding. I came with the army from Tressburg City to provide support and supervise the transportation of supplies."

With that said, Ji Chen noticed that there were indeed more elite soldiers around, and the sky was filled with flying units.

At this moment, with the sudden influx of so many soldiers, could it be...

Confused, Jichen looked at Monica, but he saw her respond with bright eyes, not concealing anything.

"That's right, after driving the enemy out of our borders, we'll sound the horn of counterattack."

Jichen was certain in his heart.

Indeed, the Lienhardt Grand Duchy wouldn't let this situation slide; they would make the Bass Kingdom feel the same pain.

He was about to inquire further, but Monica shook her head, resembling a young girl as she spoke.

"But now is not the time to discuss this. Let's go into the city first. I have many things I want to talk to Lord Ji Chen about. Oh, by the way, my father said he wants to meet you..."

"Princess Monica, good day."

At this moment, Wang Shanyue, who was observing from the side, suddenly interjected with a smile on his face.

"Hello," Monica replied softly with impeccable manners, but her eyes were fixed on Ji Chen, and her large, expressive eyes revealed her curiosity – who is this person?

Ji Chen cleared his throat and introduced, "He is Wang Shanyue, the guild master of the Shanyue Guild. He came from a distant place to support me."

As soon as Monica heard that he came to support Ji Chen, her enthusiasm noticeably increased. She curtsied gracefully and said, "Thank you for helping Lord Ji Chen. Lienhardt Grand Duchy is grateful for your efforts."

"It's my duty, my duty," Wang Shanyue waved his hand and smiled, but he couldn't help but complain inwardly.

Hey, isn't her attitude a bit too different before and after? She became so enthusiastic as soon as she heard I came to support Ji Chen.

Wang Shanyue admitted that he felt a bit sour. Despite being the guild master, he still didn't count for much in the eyes of high-ranking natives like the princess. This was the first time he had ever spoken to the daughter of a grand duke.

You, with your thick eyebrows and big eyes, why do you look so close to Monica!?

Ignoring Wang Shanyue's playful gestures, Ji Chen smiled at Monica and said, "Let's go into the city first. I also have some things I want to discuss with you."

Upon hearing this, Monica nodded happily, as if she were all ears. This made Wang Shanyue even more sour, as if he had just bitten into three big lemons.

His curiosity was also ignited.

Ji Chen, who are you really, and why do you seem so familiar with a grand duke's daughter? Did something secretive happen between you two in the past?!

In an instant, the curiosity of this man in his thirties was piqued..

Chapter 518: Changing Sides, Complete Corruption

In his heart burned the fervent fire of curiosity, and Wang Shanyue followed Ji Chen and the others into the city. Anyway, it was good to have some contact with these advanced natives.

Moreover, considering that Monica was the Grand Duke's daughter, the jewel in the crown of the Lienhardt Grand Duchy, it would be ideal if he could obtain some advantages through Ji Chen's connections.

Hence, it was evident to everyone that a man in his thirties was accompanying them, making an effort to gain their favor and approval, occasionally chiming in with his input.

"Your Highness Monica, have you not seen that battlefield? Brother Ji Chen displayed great power, with just a wave of his hand... in the end, he buried a million enemy troops there, like a born demon-slaying deity, truly a god among men!"

Wang Shanyue, who could manage such a large guild, was quite clever, knowing that Monica was very close to Ji Chen.

So he praised wildly, vividly describing that battle as if he had been there himself. He exaggerated it to the point where Ji Chen felt a bit embarrassed.

But Monica fell for it. Her eyes sparkled like gemstones as she looked at Ji Chen with admiration.

"Lord Ji Chen, did you really single-handedly eliminate a million enemy troops?"

Feeling the adoring gaze of the girl, Ji Chen cleared his throat and said, "It's not that exaggerated, at most a few hundred thousand."

Monica smiled sweetly. "That's still amazing. If it weren't for Lord Ji Chen delaying the enemy's Lords of Glory for so long, Feiguang City would have fallen long ago. This was the key to victory in this war.

Plus, your previous contribution in saving Feiguang City... when the war is over, I will request my father to bestow upon you a Radiant Cross Medal."

Upon hearing this, Wang Shanyue showed a look of surprise and envy. The Radiant Cross Medal was the most prestigious honor medal in the Lienhardt Grand Duchy, and receiving it granted an honorary title that money couldn't buy for many players.

Ji Chen smiled faintly, not caring too much.

Soon, they arrived in front of the luxurious mansion where they had previously resided, and their expressions became somewhat more serious.

Turning to Wang Shanyue, Ji Chen said, "Brother Shanyue, you should go and arrange the troops of the Shanyue Guild first."

Wang Shanyue, who was looking around the luxurious mansion, was stunned and had an incredulous look in his eyes.

He seemed to be thinking, "You, with your thick eyebrows and big eyes, I spoke so highly of you earlier, letting you receive the admiration of a fangirl. Now, you're kicking me out?"

Don't you have any conscience?"

Fortunately, Monica was quite reasonable, she smiled and said, "The Shanyue Guild is one of the most powerful Glory Lord organizations in the Lienhardt Grand Duchy. We still need your help in the upcoming war. I will issue missions to you according to the situation."

With that said, Wang Shanyue suddenly nodded enthusiastically, a delighted expression washing over his face.

Well, she should have said that earlier! This was exactly the promise he wanted.

Seeing Wang Shanyue happily leaving, Ji Chen led Monica to the reception hall.

"Lord Ji Chen, do you have something you want to discuss with me?"

Monica sat gracefully on the sofa, even in her hunting attire, she couldn't hide her noble temperament. Her soft and strong face appeared exceptionally beautiful.

She truly deserved to be the daughter of the Grand Duke, a beauty and elegance that ordinary natives couldn't compare with.

After a slight sigh of admiration in his heart, Ji Chen explained the agreement he had made earlier with Zunong and Pando.

After listening to all this, Monica's eyes widened as if she had seen something extremely surprising, and she looked adorable in her amazement.

"You said you convinced the two Glory Lord guilds of the Kingdom of Bass to switch sides?"

Ji Chen nodded, "In simple terms, that's the case."

Monica's gaze changed, and besides surprise, it was also filled with genuine admiration.

What kind of ability was this?

Even when surrounded by tens of millions of enemy troops, he could still convince the two most powerful enemy Glory Lord organizations to change sides.

"But they may not necessarily fully honor the proposal. After all, it's only verbal, with no contractual obligations."

But Monica shook her head, a flash of wisdom in her eyes.

“This is enough. Based on my understanding of Glory Lords, as long as we have an absolute advantage, they have no reason to die along with the decaying and dying Kingdom of Bass.

Destroying them from within is much easier than attacking from the outside. As long as they act at the crucial moment, their impact will surpass our imagination.”

Ji Chen nodded in agreement. The Wasteland Guild and Jungle Guild, two major guilds, could muster millions of troops if they went all out, even if most of them were low and mid-tier units. It would still be an extremely formidable force.

If such a force appeared in the heartland of the Kingdom of Bass, it would be like playing with fireworks in your pants – an instant explosion.

The two of them discussed for a long time, and they parted ways only after having dinner together in the evening.

Watching Monica gradually disappear at the street corner under the guard of her attendants, Ji Chen began to contemplate.

Finally, he said in a deep voice, “Bring the deceiver called Katie here.”

After a moment in the reception hall, two burly Naga Guardians brought Katie over like picking up a chick, tossing her carelessly onto the floor. Her plump bottom hit the ground hard, distorting her face with resentment.

Then, she gasped for air and struggled to get up, her face filled with anger..

Chapter 519: Changing Sides, Complete Corruption (2)

However, looking into Ji Chen’s eyes, there was not as much resentment as before.

This wasn’t the first time she was surprised by this Lord of Glory. Previously, she thought he left Feiguang City out of fear or something similar. But she hadn’t expected that he wanted to entangle many Lords of Glory from the Bass Kingdom.

In fact, Ji Chen also achieved the purpose of this action, successfully delaying the defense of Feiguang City for a few days, directly or indirectly leading to the Bass Kingdom’s comprehensive retreat.

In reality, she was the only outsider who knew that Ji Chen hadn’t gone all out in that battle. If he wanted to, he could have retreated into the ocean, using the advantage of aquatic troops to annihilate the pursuing enemy, instead of stubbornly defending.

And the several heroic units accompanying him were each more powerful than the last.

The Naga hero on the surface was the strongest, even Katie couldn’t see through his true strength and heroic tier.

The hero of an unknown race named Alice appeared fragile, but the sense of danger she brought was the most obvious.

The Murloc hero named Benbo was not to be underestimated either, displaying a dragon-like aura with every move, and the bump on his head hinted at his unusual bloodline.

And then there was the powerful little girl who resembled a whale...

In Katie's several months of observation among the Lords of Glory, none of them possessed such powerful heroic units and armies. There was a clear gap in strength between Ji Chen and the other Lords of Glory.

Katie couldn't help but feel curious.

What was the reason behind this significant strength gap?

Of course, this curiosity vanished instantly after she fell on her butt, leaving only resentment.

I am a Revered Envoy, a high-ranking captive. How dare you treat me like this!?

When I return to the organization, I'll bring a million-strong army to crush you!

Ignoring her displeasure, Ji Chen asked directly, "Why did you drive the Bass Kingdom to start this war?"

Katie sneered. "Do you think I'll tell you?"

Ji Chen glanced at her and revealed a gentle smile.

Katie felt a strong sense of unease creeping over her. Just as she was about to say something, she suddenly felt a pair of hands on her head.

Turning her head, she saw the hero named Alice staring at her coldly.

"Alice is a Siren, born with the power to manipulate minds. I believe she can see what you have hidden in your mind."

Katie was left in shock, feeling like a tidal wave had washed over her as her mind raced with fear and uncertainty.

She tried guessing what race Alice was, but she had never expected her to be a Siren!

Sirens, the legendary deep-sea mythical race, were rarer than a handful of rare gems and they hadn't been seen by the world for more than a thousand years.

And you're telling her there's one right in front of her?

Is this some kind of a joke?

Seeing the depth in Alice's eyes, a power that seemed to penetrate the soul, Katie involuntarily swallowed her saliva.

She knew that once her mind was forcibly invaded, her soul might not be destroyed, but there was a high probability she would become a simpleton.

But when she thought of her faith in the organization and her vows, she hesitated once again.

Ji Chen seized this opportunity and calmly said, "I'm not interested in what you Deceivers do. I only want information about the Bass Kingdom and this war."

As long as I get enough information, letting you go is not impossible. You probably know that my territory is located on a remote island in the open sea.

If I were to capture you and take you there, you might spend the rest of your life locked in a cage.”

Ji Chen’s words made Katie’s expression tremble slightly, just the thought of that possibility was infinitely repulsive to her.

Her mind wavered in an instant.

Anyway, it’s just about the Bass Kingdom, and sharing some information shouldn’t be a big deal... right?

After a long silence, she finally spoke, “What do you want to know?”

Ji Chen raised a smile and quickly asked the first question, “Did you control the Bass Kingdom’s king through some means, causing him to launch this war?”

“...Isn’t that related to us?”

“Answer quickly, or the consequences will be severe,” Ji Chen said with an unmistakable tone.

Katie froze and then fell into silence.

Seeing her reaction, Ji Chen immediately understood.

He then asked the second question, “Does the Bass Kingdom have any hidden moves? Something that could completely change the situation?”

Katie hesitated for a moment and replied, “As far as I know, the Bass Kingdom has a secret army inherited from the previous king, numbering around ten thousand troops, and their strength is unknown, but at least at Tier 5, 7 stars or higher.”

Ji Chen’s eyebrows twitched.

A secret army of around ten thousand troops, at least at Tier 5, 7 stars or higher. This was a force that couldn’t be ignored, and it might have unimaginable impact at certain moments.

“Next question...”

Ji Chen asked four or five more questions, none of which were related to the Deceivers, making Katie’s complexion improve considerably. At least it wouldn’t force her to choose between becoming a simpleton or betraying the organization.

However, she didn’t realize that, under this deliberate conditioning, her moral boundaries were gradually lowering.

From the initial firm stance of not saying anything, it gradually turned into a firm refusal to divulge anything about the organization.

Ji Chen observed all of this and nodded in approval.

After asking the final question, he knew better than to press further.

Pushing too hard would only awaken Katie’s awareness, making it lose its meaning. To fully exploit her last ounce of value, she needed to fall completely into depravity.

Ji Chen didn't make things difficult and simply instructed Anina to continue watching Katie. Then, he left the place.

The next day, Ji Chen met with Wang Shanyue. As soon as they saw each other, Wang Shanyue warmly greeted him with excitement on his face.

"Big Bro Ji Chen, no, Islander, you really kept me in the dark!"

Ji Chen paused slightly, knowing that Wang Shanyue had found out through other sources, and replied, "I didn't deliberately hide it; you just didn't ask."

Wang Shanyue jokingly scolded, "Am I supposed to ask every random solo player I meet if they're the Islander?"

After some small talk, they got down to business.

"Thanks to you, Ji Chen, that daughter of the Grand Duke sent a mission to our Shanyue Guild this morning.

The mission is to follow the Reinhardt army and launch a counterattack on the Bass Kingdom's mainland."

It seemed that this war was far from over. However, this was in line with the interests of the players. If the two countries had stopped fighting, they wouldn't have benefited from it.

Players from both the Bass Kingdom camp and the Reinhardt camp didn't want the conflict to end, especially Wang Shanyue, who had brought three million troops into the field.

Ji Chen was about to say something when a familiar voice reached their ears.

"Lord Ji Chen, good morning."

They turned to see Monica approaching with a large group of maids and servants.

Ji Chen casually greeted her, but Wang Shanyue was more respectful in his response.

"Monica, I heard that you're about to sound the horn for a counteroffensive?"

"Yes." Monica nodded, her eyes gleaming with excitement. "The Thorey Kingdom and the Pelan Kingdom have already pressed their armies to our borders. Once we finish our preparations, the three countries will collectively attack the Bass Kingdom and teach those ambitious invaders a lesson."

She blinked her big, innocent eyes and asked softly, "Lord Ji Chen, will you continue to help us?"

Ji Chen smiled confidently and said, "Of course, there are still some matters to be clarified between me, the Bass Kingdom, and the Deceivers."

Monica's face lit up with a smile, and she clenched her small fist with determination. "That's great! With your assistance, we have even more confidence."

Ji Chen's strength was well-known, and even the Reinhardt Grand Duchy couldn't ignore such a force.

Especially when Feiguang City was first besieged, those who had witnessed him in action couldn't possibly forget the scene of him summoning massive waves that swept away tens of thousands of enemy soldiers.

Ji Chen's power as an individual was equivalent to the strength of several tens of thousands of troops. This statement was by no means an exaggeration..

Chapter 520: You Deserve to Die! Divine Relic

Monica had a vague feeling in her heart that Ji Chen's current display of strength was by no means his full power. No one knew what level of combat power he and the Crown of the Ocean could unleash.

Just as she was about to say something, a group of soldiers hurriedly ran in from outside the city and came before her.

The young soldier captain at the forefront saluted respectfully and quickly spoke, "Your Highness, a large fleet has appeared in the southern sea area and is heading towards Feiguang City."

Monica's expression became serious, "Is it the fleet of the Bass Kingdom?"

"Well... it's unlikely. This fleet is entirely made up of wooden warships, and the Bass Kingdom shouldn't have such outdated warships.

Oh, by the way, their flag bears the image of a gorilla."

Ji Chen's face took on a strange expression, and he casually opened a private chat channel. A few minutes later, he received a reply.

He cleared his throat and said, "This fleet is an organization of players from King Kong Island. They are also my friends. There's no need to worry."

Upon hearing this, Monica felt relieved and nodded. "Since they are Your Excellency Ji Chen's friends, there's no need for caution. Instruct them to dock."

"Yes!"

The soldier captain immediately responded, without any objections. After Ji Chen saved Feiguang City for the second time, he became one of the most respected individuals in the city. Since they were friends of Ji Chen, there was nothing to worry about.

Soon, the fleet, consisting of various types of ships numbering in the hundreds, slowly approached the shore. I_Love_Black_Socks disembarked from one of the ships and looked at the city before her with a mixture of awe and surprise. Although it was heavily damaged, the city still stood tall.

"Is this a major city on land? It's amazing..."

She seemed like a country person visiting a city for the first time.

On King Kong Island, they didn't even have proper city walls, let alone such a towering city gate.

Just as I_Love_Black_Sockings and her companions were marveling at the city, Ji Chen and his group approached. I_Love_Black_Sockings was momentarily stunned, her face filled with joy as she waved and called out, “Big Boss Islander!!”

Ji Chen nodded in her direction and smiled.

“I didn’t say I couldn’t handle it. Why did you still come?”

I_Love_Black_Sockings grinned, “Big Boss, you’ve helped us so much before. How could we just stand by and do nothing?”

Ji Chen smiled. “Well, you’re a bit late. I’ve already repelled all the enemy players from their camp.”

I_Love_Black_Sockings was taken aback and said with a hint of regret, “Then I missed a chance to save you like a hero!”

Everyone was momentarily stunned, then burst into laughter.

At this moment, Wang Shanyue spoke thoughtfully, “King Kong Island... Are you the leader of that player guild from King Kong Island?” I_Love_Black_Sockings glanced at him with an expression that seemed to say, “Who is this old man with a rugged face and scruffy beard?”

“He is Wang Shanyue, the leader of the Shanyue Guild, and he brought quite a few troops with him.”

I_Love_Black_Sockings quickly changed her expression, wearing a friendly smile.

“So, you’re Chairman Wang. My apologies for not recognizing you earlier.”

Wang Shanyue also smiled warmly, “No need to be formal. Your guild, King Kong Island, has quite a reputation around here.”

Ji Chen had already deduced that Wang Shanyue was referring to the King Kong Island guild. He still couldn’t help asking.

Wang Shanyue appeared somewhat surprised, “Brother Ji Chen, didn’t you know? This Black Stocking lady is the current guild leader of King Kong Island. She and her members have completed many large-scale tasks in cooperation with the nearby indigenous people, which has significantly boosted the guild’s strength. Even on the mainland, I’ve heard about it.”

Ji Chen was momentarily taken aback. He hadn’t actively kept tabs on King Kong Island for some time and was surprised to learn about all the things I_Love_Black_Sockings had accomplished.

Clearly, while he had been busy expanding his own strength through conquest, others had not remained idle.

I_Love_Black_Sockings felt a bit embarrassed as she said, “Thanks to the early support and assistance from Big Boss Islander, we wouldn’t have had the strength to take on so many tasks.”

Ji Chen smiled and shook his head, “The fact that you’ve come this far is a testament to your abilities. My relationship with you isn’t as significant as you may think.”

Both I_Love_Black_Sockings and Wang Shanyue were touched. The reason I_Love_Black_Sockings held Ji Chen in such high regard was not only due to his strength but also

because he never displayed arrogance or condescension towards others. In a world where power often led to arrogance, this quality was indeed precious.

Over the past few months, they witnessed many players who had grown arrogant due to their increasing strength, only to eventually self-destruct.

“It seems like you all have a good relationship.”

Monica approached them with a light smile.

She then looked at Ji Chen and said, “Lord Ji Chen, could you introduce this lady to me?”

“Of course, she’s...”

Ji Chen started but suddenly hesitated. He remembered I_Love_Black_ Stockings’ unconventional name and was unsure whether to reveal it.

I_Love_Black_Stockings, on the other hand, was stunned by Monica’s beauty, which rivaled that of Alice. She exuded nobility and seemed to be a high-ranking indigenous noblewoman. Her eyes widened as she gazed at Monica.

When Ji Chen hesitated while introducing her, I_Love_Black_Stockings quickly realized the reason and felt a tinge of embarrassment. She cursed herself for choosing such an unconventional name.

With a somewhat awkward tone, she said, “My name is Jiang Xueqing, and that’s my real name..”