

Ocean Lord 591

Chapter 591: The Power of the Ocean, God Bless Victor!

When this news reached the New Moon Islands, a piercing alarm suddenly sounded. The residents exchanged glances and, as if by unspoken agreement, dropped their work and followed the routes they had practiced and trained for, heading underground to seek refuge in the lizardman world.

However, among them, the elves of Vale seemed somewhat bewildered as they watched the humans evacuate one after another, feeling a bit lost.

Marianne hurried to the Lord's castle and found Ji Chen. "Your Excellency, have the enemy reached here?"

Ji Chen looked at the map on the table, glanced up, and nodded. "The enemy has scouted the approximate location of the Crown of the Ocean. Seventy thousand troops, accompanied by twenty thousand sea slave laborers, are pouring out and heading straight towards the Stormy Sea."

Worry crept across Marianne's face. With a total force of ninety thousand against the Ocean Crown's meager twenty thousand, they were clearly at a severe disadvantage in terms of manpower.

Not only had their territory been discovered, but now they also had no room to maneuver.

Marianne couldn't help but feel that the odds were stacked against them this time.

If they could seize this moment to leave by ship, they might still have a chance...

Seeing Marianne's changing expression, Ji Chen spoke in an understanding tone. "Lady Marianne, if that's what you desire, I can provide you with several ships to leave. However, there won't be any military escort. Every unit is crucial for the Crown of the Ocean's defense now. Please understand."

Marianne looked conflicted. Without the Ocean Crown's army for protection and guidance, they could easily get lost in the vast sea, not to mention reaching the Maple Principality.

Since an immediate departure was not feasible, they had no choice but to stay and face the impending challenges together.

She finally let go of her fleeting hope.

Her expression became more serious as she said, "In that case, Your Excellency Ji Chen, if there's anything you need assistance with, please don't hesitate to ask. We will do our utmost to help secure the safety of the Crown of the Ocean."

Ji Chen slowly revealed a smile and nodded without hesitation. "The enemy has repeatedly dispatched reconnaissance teams. Although all of them were intercepted outside the sea, their deaths have allowed the enemy to gradually pinpoint the approximate location of the Crown of the Ocean.

Despite our repeated interceptions, the enemy has come to believe that the Crown of the Ocean is indeed within the Stormy Sea."

He pointed to the map on the table and used his index finger to indicate over a dozen red marks on the outer edge of the Stormy Sea, marking the positions where the Crown of the Ocean's forces had intercepted Lord of the Waves' scouting teams.

Even though they were on the verge of the Stormy Sea, none of the teams had actually entered the sea itself or come close to the New Moon Islands.

Marianne was puzzled and asked, "Is there anything wrong with the fact that the Crown of the Ocean is indeed located within the Stormy Sea?"

Ji Chen nodded with a smile, then shook his head slightly. "That's true, but I believe they don't actually know that the Crown of the Ocean is really here. It's just a guess based on our actions.

From their perspective, it appears that the Crown of the Ocean's team is vigorously blocking their scouting squads. This could be to safeguard their territory from being found, or it might be for different reasons, like concealing a recently uncovered and yet-to-be-explored ancient relic with divine significance. What do you think they would decide to do in response to this situation?"

"They'll probably change their target without hesitation, after all, it's the inheritance of ancient gods. I understand your thinking," Marianne looked puzzled. "But how do we make them both 'believe' and 'discover'? With such a powerful sea clan army, the Lord of the Waves shouldn't be a fool..."

Ji Chen snapped her fingers. "Leave the 'belief' part to me. As for 'discovery,' we may need your help."

"I remember you elves are skilled in illusion magic, right?"

"Of course, but illusion magic is mostly used to hide buildings or conceal entrance points. How does it fit into your plan?"

"I need you to cast a massive illusion spell, the kind that can create an illusion of a relic out of thin air."

Marianne suddenly realized and nodded quickly. "We need some time for that. Producing an illusion spell that can make a relic look real isn't something we can do in a moment."

Ji Chen nodded, "We'll buy you enough time."

The Lord of the Waves' camp was over a hundred miles from the Stormy Sea, and it would take a considerable amount of time for tens of thousands of troops to march here. In theory, they had at least a day's time, which should be enough to set up everything.

As long as there were no unforeseen circumstances.

The elves quickly got to work, selecting the spellcasters and explaining the materials they needed to Wilus.

Ji Chen also made several preparations, such as the possibility of the illusion plan being discovered or the Lord of the Waves' army arriving.

At this point, it was a matter of life and death, and all means, whether high or low, righteous or despicable, had to be used.

This included, but was not limited to, using the lower-tier troops of the Guardian Legion as suicide bombers with alchemical explosives, mobilizing and arming all residents of the Crown of the Ocean

to fight against the invading enemy, and even involving the elves. In other words, even thousands of elves could keep the enemy occupied for a while..

Chapter 592: The Power of the Ocean, God Bless Victor! (2)

In the worst-case scenario, Ji Chen would spare no hesitation in using all available resources and means, disregarding any morals or ethics.

Of course, he hoped that such a moment wouldn't come.

The entirety of the Crown of the Ocean's forces had already returned, without choosing to harass the advancing enemy army. With a total of seventy thousand troops, plus an additional twenty thousand coerced sea clan laborers, it was a formidable force that couldn't be easily shaken.

Thinking about this, Ji Chen scratched his head in frustration.

Why did Lord of the Waves have to be so provocative? He had barely defeated less than twenty thousand of his troops and left behind the palace and camp they were constructing, only to rush over here directly.

Could he not handle it?

If the Crown of the Ocean continued to harass for a few more days, the gap in their military strength would decrease to a point where they could confront each other directly, and Ji Chen wouldn't need to prepare so many unconventional methods.

With his current strength, he wasn't too afraid of Lord of the Waves, who had been hiding mysteriously in the waterspout for so long.

He wanted to see if he, as the Ocean Dominator, could outdo a Lord of the Waves!

Shaking his head, Ji Chen pushed these thoughts aside and called for Alice.

"Now that Lord of the Waves' army has set out, his palace and camp should be without significant defenses. Send the Dragon Legion to destroy them, so they won't be used against us later."

"I understand." Alice nodded.

However, half a day later, unexpected news reached him.

Lord of the Waves' camp had vanished without a trace!

Hearing this news, Ji Chen was taken aback. How could such a large camp simply disappear!?

But the fact remained. According to the report from the Dragon Legion, it wasn't due to invisibility, illusions, or submersion in the sea. The camp had genuinely and inexplicably vanished!

This was truly bizarre!

Ji Chen was puzzled, but he couldn't dwell on it any longer because the plan was about to commence. The elves had already prepared to cast a massive illusion spell.

Thirty miles east of the Stormy Sea, on a stretch of sea.

The elves arrived here on their ships, with the assistance of the Crown of the Ocean's forces, they spread out across the sea surface.

The elves' magical talents were truly enviable. Among the less than five thousand residents of Vale, there were more than two thousand elf spellcasters capable of casting large-scale illusion spells. This meant that as long as they were of adult age, they could possess quite formidable magical power.

The two thousand elf spellcasters were roughly divided into ten groups, each led by an elf elder. Marianne stood solemnly at the forefront, slowly raising her staff.

Magical energy flowed from the gem at the top of the staff, stopping about fifty meters above the sea surface. It condensed into an elemental array, with a diameter of over a hundred meters, resembling a vortex.

"First team!"

With Marianne's low command, the leftmost team of elves simultaneously raised their staffs. A more majestic surge of magical energy poured into the elemental array, making it emit even brighter light.

"Second team!"

"Third team..."

As each team of elves poured magical energy into the elemental array, a colossal portal suddenly appeared in the space fifty meters above the sea surface. It exuded a magnificent aura.

If one looked closely, they would notice that this portal was identical to the one used to enter the Divine Relic Battlefield! Even the aura was strikingly similar.

Originally, Ji Chen considered creating a decrepit and ruined relic illusion, but he thought it would be better to simply create the portal. It would be easier to confuse the enemy this way.

At first glance, if he didn't know it was fake, he would have thought that there was indeed a portal leading to the frozen wilderness standing right in front of him.

Ji Chen nodded in satisfaction and looked at Marianne.

"Thank you for your help. The Crown of the Ocean will remember that you once extended a helping hand."

Marianne seemed a bit weak, as the enormous illusion spell had nearly depleted her magical power.

"You've helped our Vale, so we naturally have to do something in return."

This illusion spell can last for a day. I hope Lord Ji Chen will successfully eliminate the enemy." Marianne bowed respectfully. "Now, please send us back. The battlefield is yours."

The ships carried the elves back to the New Moon Islands, leaving behind only the massive portal, along with eleven thousand Crown of the Ocean troops and twelve thousand Coral Palace troops.

Ji Chen stood before the portal, slowly raising his right hand. A thumb-sized azure light dot appeared in his palm.

The power of the ocean.

It seemed like the purest and most supreme essence of the sea, attracting the attention of all sea clans present the moment it appeared.

The Kraken stared at this light dot with widened eyes, displaying shock, desire, greed, and longing emotions. Eventually, it returned to calmness and lowered its head toward Ji Chen.

Alice, Herald, Benbo, and all the heroes silently lowered their heads as well.

That was the most supreme and pure essence of the boundless ocean. Controlling it meant having a slight chance of giving birth to divinity. Following a lord who might become a deity was their long-cherished wish.

In addition, the power of the ocean had more extraordinary attributes.

For example...

Ji Chen gazed at the light dot in his palm, communicating with it in his mind. An intangible force, invisible and untouchable, emanated from him, spreading in all directions with the sea breeze and currents, swiftly transmitting across the seas for miles in all directions..

Chapter 593: The Power of the Ocean, God Bless Victor! (3)

Countless beings in the ocean, devoid of much intelligence and relying mostly on instinct to survive, all turned their gazes in a certain direction at this moment and then rushed toward it without hesitation.

Swordfish, toothed arrowfish, waterborne beasts, saw-toothed whale sharks, colossal octopuses...

Countless marine creatures formed groups and advanced together, creating a spectacular scene on the ocean.

But at the same time.

The Lord of the Waves, who was heading straight for the Stormy Sea, suddenly looked to the southeast, his face filled with astonishment.

That was... the power of the ocean!?

He sensed a strange aura, and there was no mistaking it; it was the power of the ocean!

It could release him from the malicious curse branded upon him!

Filled with boundless joy in his heart, the intense emotional fluctuations left the giant turtle puzzled.

The Lord of the Waves burst into laughter, "It's the power of the ocean, there's oceanic power in this area!"

The giant turtle immediately widened its eyes and asked eagerly, "Where is it?" "Just about twenty miles in the southeast direction... I finally understand why those sea worms have been obstructing us from searching the southern seas. They must have discovered this oceanic power but haven't had the chance to excavate and acquire it yet, so they've been continuously hindering our progress!"

"God is blessing me!"

The Lord of the Waves looked up to the sky, laughing heartily, and shouted impatiently, “All troops, turn to the southeast direction! Full speed ahead!!”

Tens of thousands of troops turned in unison and rushed toward the southeast.

Ji Chen slowly infused a trace of the power of the ocean into the portal, giving it a touch of mystery and vastness, making it even more lifelike.

After completing all of this, Ji Chen looked at the heroes and the army, all of whom had their attention focused on him. “Get into position now; the enemy will be here soon.”

The heroes woke up from their reverie, “Yes!”

Under the leadership of various heroes, the legions quickly submerged into the sea, hiding and conserving their strength.

Meanwhile, Ji Chen stood before the portal, closed his eyes, and quietly waited for the arrival of the enemy.

Time passed slowly.

When tiny black dots appeared on the distant sea surface, Ji Chen slowly opened his eyes. When he saw a particularly massive black dot among those black dots, he was stunned, despite his mental preparation.

A giant turtle was approaching, and compared to it, the nearby sea clan soldiers looked like ants.

He had thought that the Kraken was already a colossal creature, but this giant turtle was ten times larger. The difference between them was like that between a child and an adult.

Such a colossal creature seemed to come from ancient times, and just looking at it filled people with dread, a fear of massive entities.

When Ji Chen saw the structure carried on the back of the giant turtle, he couldn’t help but twitch the corners of his mouth. He finally understood how the Lord of the Waves had managed to build a base on the ocean surface out of nowhere.

Building a base directly on the back of this giant turtle was indeed quite unbelievable.

The Lord of the Waves had really caught him off guard with this move.

This giant turtle only needed to move its body to easily destroy the entire Crown of the Ocean.

While the actual movement speed of the giant turtle was extremely slow, its immense size made it seem not so slow, like a small island moving towards him, with that tremendous pressure coming at him.

Whoosh-

Ji Chen took a deep breath and rallied his spirits.

This was going to be quite a battle..

Chapter 594: The True Body of the Waves Lord, the Scene of Betrayal

The giant turtle stopped thousands of meters away, but still created waves several meters high under its feet, which extended hundreds of meters before gradually subsiding.

Lord of the Waves could already see the massive gateway, reaching up to a hundred meters, exuding the aura of the coveted power of the ocean.

The power of the ocean should be hidden within this gateway.

Victor's eyes filled with fascination and greed.

As long as he could obtain the power of the ocean, not only could it remove the divine curse on him, but the power of the ocean itself was also an extremely unique force. It underwent a transformation from the divine power of the ocean god, possessing a certain ability to control the ocean. This ability was highly compatible with the Oceanic profession.

If he could absorb it, his Lord of the Waves profession would undoubtedly undergo a massive evolution!

Thinking about the enormous benefits it could bring, Lord of the Waves became even more excited.

It was only at this moment that he noticed Ji Chen standing in front of the gateway, and a hint of doubt crossed his mind.

How could there be a human here?

Could it be that he came to compete for this power of the ocean?

This thought flashed through his mind, and he chuckled at his own idea.

Other sea races were one thing, but a mere human dared to come and contend with him?

Perhaps on land, he still held some respect for the numerous human beings, but in the vast sea, no race could match the sea races; the sea races were the rulers here!

Lord of the Waves casually sent out a water wave, enough to destroy a reef. Ji Chen raised his hand nonchalantly, and a spray of water rushed in the opposite direction, perfectly dissipating the attack.

Oh?

Lord of the Waves finally took a closer look at Ji Chen. Although this attack was just a casual one, it was equivalent to a full-power strike from an elite-level hero. Not just anyone could handle it, and it was resolved with a spray of water.

Perhaps because he was about to obtain the power of the ocean and was in a good mood, he didn't feel angry about it but instead asked with interest.

"Human, why have you appeared in this vast sea?"

Ji Chen smiled slightly. "Sir, you've entered my territory with your army, slaughtering my soldiers, and now you're asking me why I'm here. Isn't that a bit excessive?"

Lord of the Waves suddenly realized, "So, you're the master of those sea race soldiers?"

"More accurately, I am their lord."

"I don't care about lords or not." Lord of the Waves spoke arrogantly, "From now on, the sea area within a radius of five hundred miles is my territory, and all the resources and creatures here belong to me."

It seems you've noticed this gateway. If you surrender with the remaining army and become slaves, I might spare your life. Otherwise, with just your twenty thousand troops hidden in the sea, you won't even be able to move a single hair on me."

Lord of the Waves spoke with an air of benevolence, completely dismissing Ji Chen.

In fact, it seemed to be the case. Lord of the Waves commanded a massive army of seventy thousand, along with twenty thousand cannon fodder laborers, giving him an absolute advantage against Ji Chen's force of over twenty thousand at the Crown of the Ocean.

If they continued to disperse their forces and harass with covert attacks as before, they would be ineffective in a direct confrontation.

Ninety thousand against twenty thousand; the advantage was clearly on his side!

"What if I refuse?" Ji Chen said calmly.

Lord of the Waves' tone instantly grew darker.

"Humph, ignorant human, you will pay a heavy price for your ignorance."

"Full attack, crush these lowly worms!"

With a command, the vast army covering the entire sea surface launched a charge. The momentum was fierce, with a ferocious battle cry and the grim-faced sea race warriors brandishing their cold, sharp weapons, their killing intent surged forward.

Amidst this overwhelming charge, Ji Chen's figure appeared extremely small, as if he might be trampled into pulp by the enemy's iron hooves in the next moment.

However, at this moment, a series of narrow white fabrics that looked like waterfalls spread across the sea surface in the distance, rapidly approaching this location.

Upon seeing clearly, Lord of the Waves couldn't help but be stunned. Tens of thousands of marine creatures were swiftly swimming, leaving white waves in their wake.

Whale sharks, octopuses, schools of fish...

As if they were responding to some call, they all rushed towards this place, hundreds of twenty-meter-long hammerhead sharks in a wedge-shaped formation rammed directly into the advancing army. The powerful impact sent hundreds of sea race soldiers flying, creating two visible gaps in the once orderly charging formation.

Following the hammerhead sharks, thousands of marine creatures of various species and forms, even those lower in the food chain, began to attack the sea race soldiers one after another.

In the depths of the sea, owners of red eyes revealed their forms, launching attacks on the charging troops from below. They used their sharp teeth to bite, their claws to tear, and even their sucker tentacles to bind and strangle their prey.

Lord of the Waves' army, suddenly attacked by hundreds of thousands of marine creatures, fell into chaos. Even as they fought back fiercely, they inevitably became embroiled in the confusion.

Lord of the Waves stared in disbelief. What had gotten into these marine creatures? They actually had the audacity to actively attack his soldiers!

Then, he seemed to recall something and looked at Ji Chen with an incredulous expression..

Chapter 595: The True Body of the Waves Lord, the Scene of Betrayal (2)

It's the power of the ocean!

Only the power of the ocean can command these marine creatures to attack without hesitation!

Damn it, this human has obtained the power of the ocean!

A faint smile appeared on Ji Chen's face as he slowly raised his right hand, which fell decisively like a sword blade.

Swish—

The Crown of the Ocean's army had already surrounded the enemy's flanks at some point, their eyes burning with fierce determination.

Led by numerous heroes, they pierced into the battlefield like sharp knives.

The Lord of the Waves' army, entangled by a massive number of marine creatures, couldn't free themselves to respond to the Crown of the Ocean's attack. They could only watch in despair as this unfolded.

With several heroes, at least at the level of legacy-tier, leading the charge, the Crown of the Ocean's army tore open gaps in the enemy formation, rolling and tearing until they completely penetrated it.

At this moment, tens of thousands of troops couldn't utilize their numerical advantage and were instead entangled by a large number of marine creatures. They watched helplessly as they were divided into several parts, forced to fight individually.

The mere twenty thousand-strong Crown of the Ocean's army overwhelmed them completely.

In this large-scale battle, several heroes from the Crown of the Ocean displayed terrifying killing power. Herald, relying on his flying advantage, continuously flew to seek out the enemy's hero units for assassination, preventing them from organizing a counterattack.

Anina, in her gigantic whale form, wreaked havoc within the enemy ranks, causing chaos.

Many heroes followed the plan, each performing their designated tasks with clear roles. In a short time, the enemy's forces were in complete disarray.

The Lord of the Waves was shocked and angry at the sight. He remembered what he had said earlier, feeling as if he had been slapped in the face.

In an instant, he was furious, and the water vortex that manifested his power surged violently.

“Human, you're asking for death!”

A large amount of seawater separated from the water vortex, flying into the air and forming countless handleless water blades, raining down like pouring raindrops. Seeing this, Ji Chen couldn't help but smile; this move was something he was very familiar with.

With a slight thought, a number of water blades, twice as many as those of the Lord of the Waves, rapidly formed within half a breath's time. Half of them precisely hit and shattered the Lord of the Waves' water blades. The Lord of the Waves' water blades disintegrated instantly, and with a slight delay, they headed straight for the water vortex, emanating a deadly intent.

The Lord of the Waves' expression changed, and he hurriedly attempted to create a water screen with seawater, but found that the seawater, like it had been coated with glue, was not easily controlled by him. It generated at a much slower speed, and it wasn't until the water blades were about to hit that he barely managed to create a water screen that was only two people tall and wide, unable to block all the incoming water blades.

A muffled groan came from within the water vortex.

Gradually, the splashes of water dissipated, and the water vortex, as if severely injured, slowly came to a stop, revealing the true form of the Lord of the Waves.

When Ji Chen saw the figure clearly, he almost couldn't hold back his disgust.

This... was a serpent person?

Within the now-still water vortex, there was indeed a massive serpent person with a human upper body and a snake lower body. Their body was as robust as an ancient tree, stretching dozens of meters long.

The long snake-like body coiled around, standing tall above.

At first glance, this physique might have given the impression of a marine behemoth, but the tumor-like growth on the head, resembling a lump of flesh, made it incredibly grotesque. The decaying flesh with bones visible in various places on the snake body, along with the pockmarked lumps and depressions, was enough to make anyone feel extremely nauseous and repulsed at first sight.

Ji Chen's expression was full of disgust. It was no wonder that he needed to hide himself within the water vortex; walking around in such a repulsive appearance would scare children.

Not only Ji Chen, but even the marine soldiers were shocked. Some of them found it difficult to accept that their master, whom they served, had such an ugly appearance.

Seeing this scene, the Lord of the Waves felt his face burning even more, and his body trembled with anger.

On his partially rotting face, his snake-like eyes glowed with intense, deep-seated hatred and bitterness.

It was all because of this human!

He deserved to die!

In the brief exchange just now, he had already realized that he was no match for the human who had already mastered the power of the ocean. Continuing to fight like this would undoubtedly result in his defeat.

But fortunately, he wasn't alone today; he had another partner.

"Giant Turtle, kill this human!

As long as we kill him, the power of the ocean will be ours, and we can remove the curse on us!"

The giant turtle had no name; it was simply known as the Giant Turtle. He had encountered it thousands of years ago by chance in the Death Sea, and this marine behemoth had been alive for at least tens of thousands of years.

Both of them were burdened by a curse from the gods, which led them to form an alliance.

They established a cooperative relationship where the Giant Turtle provided him with a place to reside within its shell. In return, he commanded his army to capture living beings from various places to replenish the Giant Turtle's fading vitality. Over the course of thousands of years, their interaction had been quite harmonious.

It could be said that the Giant Turtle was his ultimate trump card, boasting a terrifying defensive power that even the abominations within the Death Sea couldn't penetrate. In his view, as long as the Giant Turtle took action, this human would be left powerless.

"Hurry up! If this human escapes, who knows how long it will take to encounter the power of the ocean again.."

Chapter 596: The True Body of the Waves Lord, the Scene of Betrayal (3)

Lord of the Waves urged in a commanding tone.

However, the Giant Turtle did not act as he had imagined. Instead, it spoke to the human.

"Human, how about we make a deal?"

Ji Chen was puzzled, furrowing his brows, unsure of what the Giant Turtle had in mind.

Nevertheless, he asked, "What kind of deal?"

"I will help you eliminate Victor's army, and in return, you will use the power of the ocean to lift the curse from me."

Both Ji Chen and the Lord of the Waves were left dumbfounded.

The Lord of the Waves was the first to react, speaking with incredulity, "Giant Turtle, what are you saying? This human is our enemy! How can you help him kill my army?"

The Giant Turtle's voice was deep and slow, much like its long lifespan, as it explained, "Victor, my life force has been suppressed by the curse for far too long. The curse has deeply marked my body, causing me immense suffering and agony, pushing me closer to the end of my life.

For thousands of years, you have indeed been diligently searching for the power of the ocean, but all your efforts have been in vain. You were even driven out of the Death Sea, and you can't even defeat a human from the outside ocean. You are simply too weak.

I no longer have the time or patience to wait for you. I must seize this rare opportunity."

The Lord of the Waves' expression shifted from shock to astonishment, then anger, and finally, humiliation.

At this moment, he had only one thought in his mind: the Giant Turtle had betrayed him, all because of a human, and in front of everyone!

Especially the words, "You have tried hard, but it's all in vain" and "You are too weak," cut deep into his heart, reopening wounds he didn't want to talk about.

This made the Lord of the Waves fume with rage, and he was on the verge of grinding his teeth.

However, the Giant Turtle paid no further attention to him and turned to Ji Chen once again.

"How about this deal?"

Having witnessed this rather dramatic betrayal unfolding before him, Ji Chen shook his head at the proposition.

"The stakes in this trade aren't equal. I can deal with these sea clan soldiers without your help."

The Giant Turtle's tone grew slightly more urgent.

"Then what are your conditions?"

Ji Chen smiled faintly. "I don't need your assistance in dealing with these sea clan soldiers. Instead, I propose that you enter into a master-servant contract with me and serve me for a hundred years."

A gigantic turtle, with a body akin to a small island, held tremendous strategic value, and it was indeed worth subduing.

After only a moment of hesitation, the giant turtle nodded its massive head and said, "I agree to your terms."

A hundred years might seem incredibly long, but for him, as long as he could break free from the curse of the gods, he could live for another ten thousand years. He had already endured a thousand years; what difference would a mere hundred years make?

As soon as the words were spoken, the giant turtle vigorously shook its body. The violent tremors caused the camp and the towering structures on its shell to collapse with a resounding crash. Even the Lord of the Waves, caught off guard, tumbled down and fell awkwardly into the sea.

Following this, the giant turtle stepped aside, showing no intention of further interference.

Ji Chen nodded, looking at the Lord of the Waves, who had landed on the sea's surface, and a faint smile crept across his face.

You, the little pretender, who got expelled from the Death Sea like a stray dog, thought you could rule and dominate here, huh?

Did you actually think there were no tigers in the mountains, allowing the monkeys to proclaim themselves as kings?

Seeing the genuine smile on Ji Chen's face, the Lord of the Waves shivered and began to reconsider his choices.

In a deep voice, he said, "Human, I will no longer intrude into your territory, and I will no longer seek your ocean power. Let me leave."

Ji Chen responded with a mocking expression as if he had just heard a joke. He didn't say much and began to channel his magic.

Inside the mind of the Lord of the Waves, alarm bells rang loudly. He just thought of driving the seawater to escape when, in the next moment, one hand made of condensed water seized his head, while another hand held a blade that pierced through his chest.

AHH

The Lord of the Waves let out a painful scream. In his struggle, he spat out a blue crystal. The crystal shimmered, and he disappeared from his current location, reappearing several kilometers away.

The Lord of the Waves had no time to rest; he endured the intense pain and used the seawater to swiftly move away from the area.

"That damned human! He will pay for this!"

Ji Chen watched the Lord of the Waves rapidly fleeing and couldn't help but be stunned. The Lord had just abandoned his entire army and teleported away?

However, Ji Chen didn't pursue him. He simply watched with a cold smile.

As the Lord of the Waves fled, several massive serrated suction cup tentacles suddenly shot out along his escape route, tightly binding him. Following that, a gigantic octopus head emerged from the water.

Squelch—

The Kraken looked smug as it gazed at the bound Lord of the Waves, emitting a joyful cry..

Chapter 597: Sea Crystal Wyrms: The Death of Victor

Lord of the Waves exerted all his strength, but he was as helpless as an ant trying to move a giant tree when caught in the tight grip of the octopus' tentacle suckers.

The razor-sharp teeth of the creature rolled through his flesh, causing excruciating pain akin to a thousand insects tearing at his body, nearly making him lose consciousness.

The Kraken, with a greedy expression, attempted to taste the lord's blood, but the next moment, its eyes widened, and it hastily expelled the blood it had taken in.

"This blood is too foul!"

It was like drinking water mixed with oil!

After expelling the Lord of the Waves' blood, the Kraken shuddered a few times, feeling nauseated but forced to continue restraining its victim, as per its master's command. It was an unbearable ordeal.

Lord of the Waves felt as though he was about to be crushed into a pulp by the tentacle army.

As he saw the human approaching calmly on the water's surface, wearing a smirk that seemed to say, "Do you have any more tricks up your sleeve? Go ahead, use them all," he felt a sense of humiliation, even though he had already suffered plenty today.

"All!! You damned human, I'll have you killed!"

Lord of the Waves vented his pain-filled scream.

Suddenly, on the nearby sea, a military force of three thousand soldiers appeared. They were entirely composed of crystal, resembling miniature Earth Dragons. They all opened their mouths simultaneously, unleashing meteor-like blue beams of light.

Thousands of beams combined to create a sky-covering light curtain that shot toward the Kraken, cutting across its wounds like blades.

Screech!

The Kraken emitted a sharp and agonized cry, but the tentacles restraining the Lord of the Waves didn't loosen a bit. The mouth beneath its head spewed a purplish-black venom towards these new foes.

However, the three thousand troops, with surprising agility, suddenly sprouted three pairs of large blue diamond-shaped crystal wings from their backs and swiftly ascended, evading the venomous spray.

"Screech!!?"

Ignoring the Kraken's furious cries, Ji Chen watched this army demonstrate its agility in dodging the venom spray. In his eyes, a glimmer of understanding shone.

This should be the sixth-tier unit under the command of the Lord of the Waves, right?

[Sea Crystal Wurm]

[Race]: Crystalized Sea Creature

[Tier]: Sixth Tier, 3 Stars

[Level]: 40

[Skills]: Not disclosed

[Bloodline Ability]: Hidden

[A special crystalline construct creature with flight capability and a combination of physical and magical attack abilities]

This was the first time Ji Chen had encountered a sixth-tier unit, let alone faced one in battle. To be able to deal effective damage to a colossal sea monster like the Kraken, which was at the epic tier, demonstrated the formidable power of these troops.

The Sea Crystal Wurm, relying on its flight capability, hovered in the air and continuously emitted sharp beams during the intervals between avoiding the venom spray. These beams bombarded the Kraken's body, leaving pockmarked craters on it due to the scorching heat.

At this moment, Benbo arrived with the Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs, a fifth-tier unit at 9 stars. Without much hesitation, he immediately directed the spears towards the enemy.

The Sea Crystal Wurm instantly shifted its target, spewing beams to intercept the spears. Most of the spears missed, but a few managed to hit them.

However, despite the spear tips, which were capable of shattering rocks, only left shallow dents on their crystal-like bodies.

Ji Chen's eyelids twitched slightly; it seemed that the Sea Crystal Wurm's defenses were equally astonishing.

The Sea Crystal Wurm roared and emitted beams at the Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs on the sea's surface, causing significant damage in an instant. It then dove down in unison, its crystal wings generating a piercing sonic boom. Its sharp claws effortlessly tore through the scales of the Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs, leaving deep, bone-revealing wounds.

Many of the Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs were caught in mid-air and thrown down to the sea's surface, severely injured.

The Sea Crystal Wurm effortlessly countered any counterattacks, leveraging its flight and altitude advantages.

In just a few brief exchanges, the disparity in strength between the two sides became clear.

The Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs, fifth-tier at 9 stars and on the cusp of reaching the sixth tier, surprisingly had little resistance against the Sea Crystal Wurm, which was sixth-tier with 3 stars. This was still without the Sea Crystal Wurm utilizing its bloodline ability.

Ji Chen hadn't expected such a substantial power gap between fifth-tier and sixth-tier units.

Seeing his legion displaying such a pitiful performance in front of the lord, Benbo seemed to be growing furious. His body emitted a blue ripple, spreading onto the Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs.

[Unit Trait]: Lord of the Murlocs (Leading Murlocs grants an additional 50 morale, preventing them from being demoralized or fleeing. All attributes of Murloc units under command are increased by 200%, and skill power is increased by 100%.)

The Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs' momentum surged dramatically. With Benbo's enhancement, their strength advanced further, approaching the sixth tier.

In their palms, strands of frost emerged, clinging to their tridents, emitting a chilling and oppressive cold.

Benbo roared, "Throw!!"

Countless tridents were hurled, flying at a speed several times faster than before, exploding into blossoms of icy blue flowers in the air, akin to high-velocity artillery shells.

Within the exploding blossoms, the Sea Crystal Wurm was caught in the burst of frost, and its smooth crystal body was covered in numerous craters.

Roar!

The Sea Crystal Wurm was equally furious. They soared in the skies and dived into the depths of the ocean, never before subjected to such humiliation by mere fifth-tier units..

Chapter 598: Sea Crystal Wyrms: The Death of Victor (2)

Flapping its wings, it once again dove down, facing the incoming frost, its power boiling within.

Around its body, dozens of diamond-shaped crystal facets appeared, constantly rotating, blocking most of the bursting frost. Like meteors, they crashed into the sea, creating a massive impact that sent the Blue Dragon Blood Murloc directly into the water, causing a towering column of water.

Seizing the opportunity, the Blue Dragon Blood Murloc fixed itself onto its opponent, relentlessly attacking with its claws, even willing to perish together with the enemy.

These two troops engaged in a brutal battle, and for a moment, it seemed impossible to determine the victor.

However, Ji Chen knew that the most probable victor would be the Sea Crystal Wym, as its greatest trump card—its bloodline ability—had not yet been used. This was the key difference between sixth-tier troops and fifth-tier troops.

Sure enough, in the brief entanglement, the Sea Crystal Wyrms one by one activated their bloodline powers.

In Ji Chen's eyes, their strength increased significantly. They used their claws to knock the Blue Dragon Blood Murlocs off their bodies. With diamond-shaped crystal wings flapping behind them, they rocketed through the sea's surface and into the sky like missiles.

They lined up in the sky, opened their mouths, and a sphere of intense blue light was gathering, emitting violent energy fluctuations. Anyone could see that they were about to unleash a more powerful spell attack.

Ji Chen had thoroughly understood the strength of sixth-tier troops by now and couldn't afford to stand by idly.

He raised his hand.

Countless water arrows pierced through the sea surface into the sky, interrupting the Sea Crystal Wyrms as they were casting their spells. The energy spheres in their mouths exploded, leaving their mouths in a mess.

However, after the water arrows shattered, the water droplets did not obediently fall due to gravity. Instead, they condensed again into water ropes, pulling the Sea Crystal Wyrms down towards the sea.

Seizing this opportunity, Benbo leaped out of the water like a cannonball, swinging the trident in his hand fiercely towards one of the Sea Crystal Wyrms.

Ding—

The sharp sound of metal colliding with a hard object. One of the Sea Crystal Wyrms had its body shattered by the trident, and immediately, Benbo did not stop. He stepped on the remaining half of its body and leaped towards another nearby one, piercing its head with the trident.

Benbo, who had evolved his bloodline not long ago, had already abandoned the usual clumsiness and vulnerability of the Murlocs. At this moment, he possessed strength comparable to that of an

Orc. Chop, smash, swing, lift; not a single Sea Crystal Wurm could withstand the force of his trident.

It wasn't until he had killed several of them that he descended back to the ground.

The battle at the portal of the illusion spell seemed to gradually subside. Herald led a large army to support, joining forces with Benbo and the Dragon Blood Legion to massacre the Sea Crystal Wurms.

The Sea Crystal Wurms, deprived of their power to return to the sky, had their combat effectiveness significantly reduced.

Despite the sharpness of their minions, facing the Ocean Crown forces, who feared nothing and were willing to bite even if they were cut in half, the numbers of the Sea Crystal Wurms were slowly decreasing.

In addition to the support of many Ocean Crown heroes, the balance of victory was slowly tilting.

One hour later.

"Ding- You have killed a large group of Sea Crystal Wurms (Tier 6, 3 stars), gaining 300,000 experience points."

"All of Lord of the Waves' armies under your command have been completely eliminated, earning you an additional 100,000 experience points."

The battle ended.

Bodies floated all around, and the sea was stained crimson, with blood spreading for miles. There were now only a few troops left standing.

Lord of the Waves, Victor, watched this scene in despair, his heart as cold as ashes.

He had exhausted all of his trump cards and had no means of resistance left.

At this moment, he deeply regretted why he had provoked this human. If none of this had happened, he would still be the mighty Lord of the Waves.

Ji Chen approached Victor, using a casually indifferent tone.

"Do you have any moves left? If not, then your time is up."

Victor glared angrily, "Human, you've won this time. You can kill or torture me as you wish!"

"You've just been lucky. If we were to start over, I wouldn't give you any chances."

Victor thought bitterly. He blamed his failure on his own complacency and carelessness.

If he hadn't rushed into the attack but instead completed the construction of his palace and magic artillery towers first, his strength would have increased tenfold, and he might have had a chance to defeat this human.

He's quite resilient!

Ji Chen looked at Victor's defiant and unwilling expression and could tell what kind of person he was.

At this point, he had no desire to continue talking to him.

He gently waved his hand, and the Kraken understood, tightening its tentacles around Victor's body, completely binding him.

Crack, crack—

As the tentacles continued to squeeze, the sound of bones breaking and shattering echoed loudly. Victor's eyeballs bulged, and his body gradually went limp.

“Ding- Your hero, the Northern Sea Giant Kraken: Kraken, has killed the enemy leader, Lord of the Waves: Victor...”

The Kraken released its tentacles, allowing Victor's body to slip into the sea and slowly sink into the depths.

Ji Chen looked back at the chaotic sea surface, feeling a certain way.

This battle had given him a very clear understanding of Tier 6 units.

Three squads of Sea Crystal Wyrms, totaling a thousand, had inflicted casualties on more than thirteen thousand of his Ocean Crown forces, with over half of them being Tier 5 units. This was even with the Sea Crystal Wyrms losing their flying advantage and not fully utilizing their bloodline abilities due to his interference.

If they had been allowed to unleash their firepower to the fullest, the casualties could have been much higher.

“My lord, look...”

At this moment, Alice approached him, pointing in the distance. Ji Chen followed her slender, fair finger.

The marine creatures summoned from various parts of the ocean to support them were swimming towards him in groups, filling the sea in front of him. Their eyes shimmered with a strange light, as if they were trying to convey something.

Ji Chen nodded at them, and then, as if he had remembered something, he raised his right hand, and a surge of oceanic power appeared in the palm of his hand.

Then he gently lifted his hand, and wisps of deep blue energy floated up from it like smoke. With a casual wave, the energy drifted towards them and was absorbed by them.

After absorbing this energy, these marine creatures showed a comfortable and joyful expression, chirping happily, and then they turned and left.

Alice looked puzzled, “My lord, why...”

Ji Chen smiled, “They helped us, but it's not without cost. We have to give something in return.”

Alice nodded thoughtfully, watching as these marine creatures gradually disappeared from sight.

As the surviving Ocean Crown forces were cleaning up the battlefield, a giant turtle approached, with a hint of anticipation in its eyes. It spoke in a deep, booming voice.

“Human, it's time to fulfill the agreement.”

“Of course,” Ji Chen didn’t waste any time, skillfully drawing up the master-servant contract and quickly signing it with the giant turtle.

The moment the contract was completed, Ji Chen felt the immense and profound vitality of the giant turtle, like a mountain and an endless sea. He also sensed the curse hidden deep within its flesh and soul.

This curse was like a locust clinging to the heart of the giant turtle, constantly draining its life force, making it weak and experiencing pain that ordinary beings could hardly bear.

The more it regained its life energy, the more the curse grew stronger as it absorbed it.

“Who placed this curse on you?”

The giant turtle spoke slowly, “It was a deity.”

Ji Chen asked in surprise, “But aren’t deities no longer active in the world? How could they place a curse on you?”

After a moment of silence, the giant turtle said, “To be more accurate, it was the Ocean God’s Shrine that cursed me. It’s a divine artifact left behind by the Ocean God, and under the Ocean God’s instructions, it curses any sentient beings who covet it with greed and desire.”

Ji Chen’s heart skipped a beat.

A divine artifact?

Chapter 599: Strategic Mobile Fortress, Establishing Victory Day

“I was blinded by greed back then, seeking greater power, nurturing forbidden desires, so I ended up enduring the curse for thousands of years...

Although you possess the power of the ocean, I advise you not to have any thoughts about that artifact; it could bring disaster upon you.”

The giant turtle spoke with a solemn tone, laden with warnings.

Ji Chen nodded and decided to change the subject, saying, “Let me help you remove the curse now.”

The giant turtle nodded in anticipation.

Ji Chen raised his hand, and the azure light in his palm flew into the giant turtle’s body.

The power of the ocean entered the turtle’s body, following its veins and blood vessels, quickly reaching the deep-seated curse. It was like a warrior engaging in a fierce battle with the deeply rooted curse. The clash was as explosive as throwing sodium into the water, causing a violent reaction between the two.

Despite the intense reaction, which caused even the millennia-old giant turtle, who had endured immense pain, to tremble uncontrollably, the curse was gradually being eliminated.

Several hours later, Ji Chen, with a tired expression, withdrew his hand and said, “It should be completely removed.”

Even without Ji Chen's words, the giant turtle could feel it. Its body, previously shrouded in darkness, was now bursting with vitality. Its life force surged like a flood, effortlessly lifting a mountain off its shoulders.

The giant turtle roared in excitement, its distinctive, melodious cry echoing throughout the entire sea clan, dispersing the clouds in the sky.

After a long time, the giant turtle finally calmed its turbulent emotions and looked at Ji Chen. It spoke slowly, "Human, you have helped me lift the curse. As agreed, I will serve you for a hundred years."

As if recalling something, it continued, "Victor built his palace on my back, and it seems he left a spell tower core and a treasury on it. Those things should be useful to you."

Hearing this, Ji Chen became interested. Without further ado, he was transported to the giant turtle's back, which was dozens of meters high.

When the giant turtle shook Victor off its back earlier, the camp and the giant tower on top of it collapsed, leaving behind a mess.

Ji Chen went directly to the collapsed giant tower, and with careful searching, he quickly discovered a head-sized, glowing blue orb buried under the ruins.

Covered with runic patterns, it looked extraordinary.

[Spell Tower Core]

[Tier]: Legendary (1-7 stars, then Legendary Artifact)

[Effects]: Functions as the core for constructing a spell tower.

[Attack Range]: 0-50 kilometers

[After constructing the spell tower, it can operate autonomously or be manned by hero units.]

[When manned by a hero unit, it greatly enhances their spellcasting abilities, including but not limited to significantly increasing spell damage, reducing mana consumption, greatly reducing spell cooldowns, and expanding the range of spell attacks.]

A Legendary-grade treasure!

Ji Chen's eyes showed a hint of surprise, followed by excitement.

There was such a treasure?

It was fortunate that Lord of the Waves hadn't completed the construction of this tower. Otherwise, winning this war would have come at a tremendous cost, and victory might not have been certain.

Victor's split-second decision swiftly tilted the balance of this war, leading to a complete rout.

This seemed to serve as a reminder to him – never underestimate any enemy. When confronting adversaries, give it your all. The highest form of respect for an enemy was to eliminate them completely.

Among the ruins of the giant tower, he also found Lord of the Waves' treasury, which contained five hundred units of spirit crystals, likely brought out of the Death Sea by Lord of the Waves.

Aside from the spirit crystals, he discovered a map depicting the entrance to the Death Sea.

Thinking about the Death Sea, Ji Chen's interest was piqued.

The Death Sea wasn't as lifeless as outsiders believed. This vast and mysterious sea, stretching for hundreds of kilometers, contained far more than one might imagine.

This place, he would explore sooner or later.

Folding the map, Anina suddenly approached, her face filled with excitement, and said, "My Lord, I've found some intact recruitment camps for units!"

Ji Chen blinked and immediately said, "Lead me to them."

Ji Chen followed Anina to a spot near the ruins, where five recruitment camps, resembling coffins, stood amidst the collapsed buildings.

[Sea Crystal Wurm Recruitment Camp]

[Tier]: Tier 6, 3 stars

[Recruitable Unit]: Sea Crystal Wurm (Tier 6, 3 stars)

[Weekly Recruitment Limit]: 10

[Current Available Recruits]: 10

[Recruitment Cost]: 20 units of spirit crystals

It was actually a Sea Crystal Wurm recruitment camp!?

Ji Chen was stunned; this was a genuine Tier 6 unit!

The power of the Sea Crystal Wurm was unquestionable. Besides its rare ability to fly, it possessed formidable physical and magical damage.

A squadron of Sea Crystal Wurms, consisting of a thousand individuals, could easily slaughter several times their number of Tier 5 units without sustaining any damage.

Ji Chen happily accepted these five recruitment camps, then patted Anina's head with a smile, saying, "Well done."

Anina giggled happily and suddenly spoke a bit hesitantly, "My Lord, I'd like to ask you a favor."

Ji Chen smiled and spoke in a gentle tone, "Of course, what is it?"

Chapter 600: Strategic Mobile Fortress, Establishing Victory Day (2)

"Tell me."

"I want to become stronger." Anina's face lit up with a hint of desire.

She had always considered herself very powerful, relying on her iron fists to defeat enemies from all walks of life.

Previously, her exceptional combat abilities had earned her recognition and importance.

However, during their recent journey through the frozen wilderness, when facing the Northern Sea Giant Kraken, she felt as helpless as a child. It deeply wounded her pride and left her feeling fearful.

Compared to her colleagues, she seemed to have become less significant.

Benbo had recently reached Legendary Tier and now led the Dragonblood Legion. Alice possessed a unique power of mind control that was irreplaceable. Herald was a Legendary hero who led the Naga Legion, and Sonia controlled the vast Mystic Realms...

Even the defector, Diago, had shone brightly in this war.

It had been a hard-won opportunity for her to find a place that could accommodate and value her. Anina feared being overlooked and abandoned.

Ji Chen looked at the reluctance and confusion in Anina's eyes, seemingly understanding her concerns. He comforted her by gently patting her head.

In reality, he already thought about helping Anina advance further, but breaking through her potential limits would require more than just rare resources.

[Deep Sea Dragon Whale Hero: Anina J

[This hero possesses the Deep Sea Dragon Whale bloodline but has reached the potential limit. Breaking the potential limit requires additional resources.]

[Requires Rare Resources]: 4 million units of crystals, 4 million units of mithril, 4 million units of adamantite

[Requires Additional Resources]: Higher-level Dragon Whale bloodline

Resources were manageable, but the challenge lay in obtaining the higher-level Dragon Whale bloodline, which left Ji Chen somewhat perplexed.

He slowly conveyed this information to Anina, who suddenly seemed to recall something, her eyes sparkling.

"A higher-level Dragon Whale bloodline? I know where to find it!"

Ji Chen was taken aback, "You do?"

Anina nodded. "Our Deep Sea Dragon Whale clan, before reaching the end of our natural lives or when severely injured and near death, would return to the Dragon Whale Abyss to await death. My mother once told me that if I ever reached the limit of my bloodline's potential, I could seek a breakthrough in the Dragon Whale Abyss.

We have so many of our kin slumbering in the Dragon Whale Abyss; perhaps some of them possess higher-level Dragon Whale bloodlines!"

Ji Chen's expression turned somewhat peculiar.

Was this about to become a quest to dig up your family's ancestral grave?

This is incredibly filial, like the utmost respect for the departed!

“If you don’t mind, it’s doable. But Anina, do you remember the location of the Dragon Whale Abyss?”

Anina waved her hand dismissively, looking like a dutiful daughter. “What’s there to mind? The Dragon Whale Abyss is deeply hidden within the bloodline of the Deep Sea Dragon Whale clan. I certainly know where it is.

“It’s not very far from the Stormy Sea and lies in a seabed area at the southern border of the East-West Ocean!”

It seemed like their busy schedule was about to have another item added to it.

With the battlefield now mostly cleared, Ji Chen led the heroes and the army onto the back of the giant turtle and commanded it to head back to the New Moon Islands.

Standing on the shell of the giant turtle and overlooking the ocean was a different experience. The sea appeared as if it were beneath their feet, like riding on an aircraft carrier. With each stroke of the giant turtle’s limbs, they covered a significant distance. It seemed slow, but in reality, it was much faster than riding on creatures like the Lobster Guardian Knights.

Ji Chen contemplated the possibilities. The giant turtle’s shell was oval-shaped, with an area of 2.5 square kilometers. If the Lord of the Waves could build a camp here, even a magical artillery tower, using it as a mobile fortress, then he certainly could as well.

He planned to rebuild the existing camp, including the central tower, and make full use of it.

A war fortress that had abundant firepower, could house recruiting camps, defensive towers, and various facilities, and could accommodate a large number of troops while being highly mobile.

Wasn’t this a perfect otherworldly version of a strategic mobile fortress!?

Just thinking about it, he could see its enormous potential.

Going a step further, if they could implement some waterproof measures, they could even submerge in the sea to evade threats from the sky, increasing its concealment!

A brilliant idea flashed in Ji Chen’s mind. He rummaged through his backpack and quickly found a multi-faced geometric solid with dozens of edges and lines.

He smiled with satisfaction.

[Tidal Surge Core]

[Grade]: Special

[Effect]: Can create a waterless area suitable for land creatures to survive in water.

[Range]: 1 kilometer in diameter

[Duration]: Permanent

This was a possession he had acquired for the first time when he came to the Maple Principality. It served as proof of his status as Young Master Zhao and was obtained through a player auction in the Black Gold District. He had nearly forgotten about it.

This Tidal Surge Core had been sitting in the corner of his backpack, collecting dust all this time. Unexpectedly, it could come in handy now!

As long as this Tidal Surge Core was placed on the giant turtle's back, it could create an area that isolated seawater from entering. This would not only allow aquatic races to settle but also enable humans to stay there for an extended period.

Then, they wouldn't need to swim when going out. They could simply travel on the back of the giant turtle and reach any part of the ocean. This was much more impressive than any ship!

While others used boats for their journeys, he was using a turtle. He could comfortably lie down, bring various facilities with him, and be considered an otherworldly version of a cruise ship.

Thinking about this, Ji Chen couldn't wait and urged the giant turtle to return to the Crown of the Ocean, ready to start construction.

When the residents of the Crown of the Ocean were informed to return from the underground lizardman world, they were shocked to see the giant turtle floating on the sea like a mountain.

How could such a large turtle be here?

Later, they heard rumors that this giant turtle had originally been the mount of an enemy leader but had abandoned the dark side to join Lord Ji Chen because of its admiration for him.

Or they heard that Lord Ji Chen had effortlessly defeated the giant turtle with his supreme power and forcibly tamed it.

In any case, various rumors and speculations spread across the Crown of the Ocean along with the sea breeze that followed Ji Chen's triumphant return. Countless residents praised Ji Chen's wisdom and strength, leading the Crown of the Ocean through another crisis.

When Ji Chen returned, he received the highest honor from the residents. They lined up to greet him, and every face was filled with excitement and joy. Some young girls looked at him with eager eyes, as if they wanted to rush forward and give him a passionate kiss, but they restrained themselves due to Ji Chen's dignity and the watchful gaze of Alice following behind him.

But one person, or rather one elf, rushed forward without any hesitation and threw herself into his arms.

Elisya's face lit up with joy. "Brother, you're finally back!"

Ji Chen smiled and nodded. "Yes, I've come back victorious."

"Did you listen to Sister Verena's advice and protect the New Moon Islands with her?"

"Of course," Elisya said proudly, tilting her head up. "I've been patrolling with my bow, not letting a single fly get through!"

Ji Chen lovingly ruffled her small head and looked at the elves from the Vale Village who were approaching.

"Lady Marianne, I've already slain the enemy, thanks to your earlier assistance in diverting the enemy's attention, preventing the conflict from spreading to the New Moon Islands."

Marianne, the leader of the elves, smiled and shook her head. “It was also to help ourselves. I couldn’t bear to see such a beautiful island consumed by war.”

Ji Chen didn’t say much and nodded.

“The enemy has been defeated, and the waterway is now clear. In three days’ time, we will set sail for the Maple Kingdom.

But before that, I hope you can attend the celebration banquet the day after tomorrow.”

To celebrate the victory over Lord of the Waves and to commemorate the journey of the Crown of the Ocean’s growth, Ji Chen immediately decided to hold a grand celebration banquet.

The residents showed great enthusiasm for this, and under Wikis’ coordination, they began preparations.

Celebration banquets and regular festival celebrations were excellent ways to increase a sense of belonging and cohesion.

Ji Chen intended to create a holiday called Victory Day after defeating the Lord of the Waves, to celebrate the Crown of the Ocean’s ongoing victories and their resilience in the face of challenges.

This also provided a small measure of solace to the now-defeated Lord of the Waves..