

R. Paradise 831

Chapter 831: Bee Sting

"At the same time, while controlling 26 Ghost Bees, blood vessels emerged on Lan Jue's eyeballs, blood vessels bulging on his face. From those twitching vessels, you could see how fast his blood was flowing.

Boom, boom, boom— Lan Jue's heart was pounding like a drum, beating at a speed of at least 300 times per minute, making it difficult for him to breathe. Lan Jue was pushed to desperation by Su Xiao, who was preparing to fight him to the death.

This style of action didn't seem like that of someone from the Paradise of Apocalypse; instead, it resembled the style of the Paradise of Reincarnation, never compromising and pushing to the brink.

Su Xiao controlled Sis to stand in front of himself and transferred control of Sis to Bubu Wang. He wanted to focus on the battle and needed more energy to control Sis. It was impossible to both engage in close combat with the enemy and control Sis, which was why, unlike the last battle with Lan Jue, Su Xiao didn't summon the Orphan of Resentment·Sis. Bubu Wang took over control of Sis, lying in the bushes, focusing all its attention on Sis.

At this moment, Sis was standing in front of Su Xiao. After Bubu Wang took control, the Orphan of Resentment·Sis subconsciously extended its tongue and landed on all fours.

Su Xiao's mouth twitched, kicking 'Sis' on the side. 'Sis' turned around in confusion as if saying, 'What's wrong, master?'

"Get up, quickly adapt to Sis's fighting style, stand up, rush over, and use the 'chicken leg' in your hand to hack at that guy." After hearing Su Xiao's words, Bubu Wang quickly stood up and glanced at the muscle scimitar in his hand. This thing was what Su Xiao called the 'chicken leg.' In fact, this thing looked like a peeled chicken leg, just magnified several times.

In the Holy Grail world, Su Xiao almost got hammered to death by this 'chicken leg.'

A counter shield formed around Su Xiao; dozens of hexagonal energy shields hovered around him, ready to defend against Lan Jue's attacks at any time. Su Xiao and Lan Jue locked eyes, and neither side spoke, as both parties were short on time.

Boom! The soil splattered under Su Xiao and Sis's feet as they charged towards Lan Jue. Sis was in front, Su Xiao behind, occasionally changing positions, a silent understanding between Su Xiao and Bubu Wang. Swish, swish, swish... 20 Ghost Bees shot forward, breaking through the layers of air, while the remaining 6 Ghost Bees hovered around Lan Jue.

It was challenging to deal with just one Ghost Bee, let alone 26. Initially, the maximum summon limit for Ghost Bees was 1. After the Mechabug King parasitized Lan Jue, this restriction was temporarily lifted.

The 20 Ghost Bees attacked Sis first. Bubu Wang controlled Sis to open its arms, completely shielding Su Xiao, who was behind. If it were ordinary arrows, what Bubu Wang did would be correct, but the Ghost Bees were not ordinary arrows. The arrow bodies of the 20 Ghost Bees turned blue and became translucent.

Swish— The Ghost Bee pierced through Sis, heading straight for Su Xiao. Su Xiao's perception was fully open, and he felt a faint prickling sensation all over his body—a warning sign. Realizing he couldn't defend against the Ghost Bee, Bubu Wang immediately stopped controlling Sis.

"Don't stop! Go and harass him." Su Xiao shouted, his eyeballs rapidly turning in their sockets, capturing the trajectories of the attacks from the Ghost Bees. There were too many Ghost Bees.

Just as Bubu Wang stopped controlling Sis after the command, he almost instinctively continued rushing towards Lan Jue.

Following Su Xiao's orders was instinctual for Bubu Wang. Sis charged towards Lan Jue, and the 6 Ghost Bees around Lan Jue stopped hovering, waiting for Sis to attack. At the same time, Lan Jue drew two energy guns from his waist.

Bang, bang, bang...Thirty basketball-sized plasma balls were fired. These plasma balls had tracking capabilities and were already locked onto Su Xiao. Su Xiao controlled thirty counter shields to confront them.

Su Xiao didn't have time to evade the plasma balls; he had to ensure he didn't die under the siege of the 20 Ghost Bees, which was difficult. The 20 Ghost Bees were currently in a virtualized state, ready to transform into a physical attack against Su Xiao at any moment.

The virtualized Ghost Bees first penetrated through Su Xiao's surrounding counter shields. The Ghost Bees were already incredibly fast, and after passing through the counter shields, their tips were less than 20 centimetres away from Su Xiao.

After passing through the counter shields, the 20 Ghost Bees solidified, their bodies turning pitch black, carrying powerful kinetic energy. At this moment, Su Xiao's feeling could only be described as hairs standing on end. If he made any slight mistake, he would die on the spot.

The skin targeted by the arrow tips felt a chilling warning sensation. Su Xiao leapt in place, swinging his Dragon Slayer's Flash in a side slash. Ding. Seven Ghost Bees were sent flying by the slash; nine were evaded by Su Xiao's jump, leaving four. One pierced Su Xiao's abdomen, two pierced his left shoulder, and one pierced his thigh.

Four blood holes the size of fingers appeared, and Su Xiao raised an eyebrow. The power of these things had weakened a bit. As Su Xiao landed, the Ghost Bee with blood-stained bodies turned around behind him, the arrowheads pointing at him. mRings broke apart.

Clang. A pale blue ring-shaped blade spread out. Lan Jue, a hundred meters away, immediately controlled the Ghost Bees to dodge, but at this moment, Sis, controlled by Bubu Wang, had already rushed to his front. Lan Jue's control of the Ghost Bees paused.

As the ring-shaped blade wholly expanded, two crisp sounds echoed. The ring-shaped blade cut two Ghost Bees; one had a cut in the middle, while the other had its arrowhead cut off.

Su Xiao noticed that among the 26 Ghost Bees, one was the fastest. That Ghost Bee should be the one Lan Jue kept close to him. The other 25 newly formed Ghost Bees were slightly inferior in penetration, power, and toughness.

Although that was the case, the newly formed 25 Ghost Bees were extremely fast, and their penetration power was enough to pierce Su Xiao's flesh. The Ghost Bee next to Su Xiao suddenly

retreated, moving away from him because Bubu Wang had already controlled Sis to get close to Lan Jue.

At this moment, Sis had three Ghost Bees embedded in his body. The muscle scimitar in his hand smashed towards Lan Jue. Lan Jue was quick and immediately dodged sideways. He wasn't just a long-range fighter.

Boom! The soil splattered; Sis's strength was terrifying, and the splattering mud and rocks were akin to shotgun bullets. If observed closely, it would be noticed that the movements of Sis, controlled by Bubu Wang, were somewhat stiff. It wasn't that Bubu Wang couldn't control Sis properly; it was the three Ghost Bees inside Sis causing trouble.

The remaining three Ghost Bees next to Lan Jue shot towards Sis. They quickly pierced into Sis's body, stopping inside him. As a result, Sis had one Ghost Bee each in his head, both arms, both legs and chest—exactly six in total.

"Command: Ascend." Lan Jue raised his arm, and the six Ghost Bees inside Sis, carrying Sis with them, flew higher and higher into the sky. "Now it's just us." With blood vessels bulging all over his face, resembling a fierce ghost, Sis smiled. Su Xiao had no time to pay attention to Sis; the 19 Ghost Bees around him were too difficult to deal with, leaving him no room for a moment of distraction.

Swish— A Ghost Bee grazed Su Xiao's neck, leaving a bloodstain. With a spluttering sound, another Ghost Bee pierced Su Xiao's left arm. At the same time, he swung his sword to strike at another Ghost Bee in front of him. Ding! Metal debris flew, and one Ghost Bee was cut into two by Su Xiao.

Cough, cough, cough... Lan Jue made intense dry coughs; blood flowed from his earholes. Whenever Su Xiao shattered a Ghost Bee, Lan Jue had to endure the backlash. Despite this, Su Xiao was worse off than Lan Jue; he had at least ten blood holes in his body, with three of them reaching his internal organs.

Chapter 832: Cooperate

The sharp whistling sound cut through beside Su Xiao. Black shadows flew past - these were all Phantom Bees, in full-speed state, leaving behind remnants of their shadows. Su Xiao left traces of blood on the ground along his path, each Phantom Bee aiming to take his life.

Ducking to evade one of the Phantom Bees aiming for the back of his neck, Su Xiao knew this couldn't continue. Every time a Phantom Bee injured him, it added a layer of poison effect. These poison effects had accumulated in numerous layers, growing stronger with each layer.

[You are affected by an unknown poison. The accumulated abnormal status layers: 11 layers— reflex speed -20%, body defence -30, stamina -5. You are suffering 3 points of true poison damage per second. Abnormal status lasts 6 minutes.]

The toxicity of the Phantom Bees undergoes a qualitative change after accumulating to three layers. Moreover, the more layers, the longer the abnormal status persists. Currently, it's for 6 minutes. The next time he gets injured by the Phantom Bees, the poison's duration will double.

By the tenth time Su Xiao was injured, the abnormal status duration became 3 minutes. By the eleventh time, it extended to 6 minutes. The subsequent injury may extend it to 12 minutes. The 3 points of actual poison damage per second was significant. If Su Xiao got hurt too many times, even if he could kill Lan Jue, he would be eroded to death by the actual poison damage.

Whoosh~ A Phantom Bee grazed Su Xiao's arm, blood spraying. Just as he anticipated, the abnormal status duration became 12 minutes. He would receive 180 points of actual poison damage per minute, totalling 2160 points within 12 minutes.

Bu Bu Wang's Ice Snow Goddess Aura regenerated 1 point of health per second. Coupled with the use of Potion No. 1 for resistance, Su Xiao could endure 12 minutes of actual poison damage. If it were for 24 minutes, he might have a slim chance, but for 48 minutes, it would be certain death.

The closer to a life-or-death situation, the calmer Su Xiao became. He glanced at Lan Jue, a hundred meters away; this guy showed no intention to retreat, and the situation hadn't escalated beyond control.

What Su Xiao feared the most now was when the poison accumulated to a lethal level, Lan Jue might choose to retreat. Su Xiao had overthought. If Lan Jue couldn't kill him, it would be a dead end for Lan Jue, too. At this point, neither would escape. Even if they had to resort to biting, one of them would die.

Boom! Ruisi descended from above, smashing into the ground creating a pit. The Phantom Bees inside Ruisi's body trembled slightly, not enough to carry Ruisi into the air. Su Xiao waved his arm, and Bu Bu Wang, hidden in the distant bushes, understood his intent without the need for words or eye contact. Bu Bu Wang immediately controlled Ruisi to charge towards Lan Jue.

Meanwhile, Su Xiao made every effort to evade the nine Phantom Bees around him, having already dispatched the rest. If it were anyone else stabbed so many times by Phantom Bees and eroded by actual poison damage, even a main tank would have fallen. However, Su Xiao's health was higher than that of a main tank. The fact that a main tank would fall didn't mean he would.

Bu Bu Wang controlled Ruisi to charge at Lan Jue, who, with seven wounds bleeding, spat out blood-tinged saliva. He pulled out two energy-blade short knives from his calves.

"Don't think I only control Phantom Bees." Lan Jue's eyes glinted with ferocity.

While he genuinely couldn't handle close combat against Su Xiao, Ruisi, controlled by Bu Bu Wang, wasn't exceptionally skilled in close combat. At most, it was a big guy with strength and speed, and Lan Jue wasn't afraid.

While Su Xiao dodged attacks from the Phantom Bees, Ruisi was already rushing towards Lan Jue. Lan Jue lowered his body, focusing his weight downward. Despite temporarily playing the role of an assassin, his agility attribute was not low.

As Ruisi closed in on Lan Jue, the distance between the two rapidly shrank. Just when Lan Jue was prepared to counter Ruisi, unexpectedly, Ruisi leaned to the side, passing by Lan Jue. His cautious movement, seemingly prior to engaging in close combat, actually allowed the Boundary Line to entangle Lan Jue.

Lan Jue was surprised; he had yet to expect Ruisi to be this cautious. His mind, groggy from controlling too many Phantom Bees, quickly pondered and suddenly realized something.

"It's over." Ruisi smiled bitterly. Due to the severe headache he had just experienced, his thoughts paused momentarily. Once his mind cleared, he guessed the enemy's plan.

Ruisi immediately stopped controlling the Phantom Bees, intending to use a specific ability. Unfortunately, controlling the Phantom Bees had drained too much mana, rendering that ability unusable.

Sizzle~ A green metal wire wound around Lan Jue's waist, profoundly penetrating his flesh. Originally fixed to Ruisi's back, this metal wire had been shot toward Lan Jue when Ruisi circled him. It seemed like a cautious move before close combat, but in reality, it allowed the Boundary Line to entangle Lan Jue.

A few seconds ago, Su Xiao raised his hand to attach the Boundary Line to Ruisi's back. Bu Bu Wang immediately grasped Su Xiao's intent, thus controlling Ruisi to charge at Lan Jue.

Entangled by the Boundary Line, Lan Jue realized one thing: he was done for.

While Bu Bu Wang controlled Ruisi to charge at Lan Jue, with no other choice, Lan Jue could only block with his dual knives. Ruisi raised his arm, and the muscular curved blade in his hand smashed towards Lan Jue, who leaned slightly to the side.

Lan Jue used both energy blades to block above his head. He had already planned in his mind that when the curved blade clashed with the energy blades, he would use the force to dodge. As the curved blade descended with a whistling sound, it indeed contacted Lan Jue's energy blades first.

However, just as he prepared to dodge, he felt a stabbing pain around his waist accompanied by an irresistible force - Su Xiao had pulled the Boundary Line. Lan Jue's strength attribute, initially at 33 points, had been permanently reduced by -15 points, leaving him with only 18 points. In contrast, Su Xiao's strength attribute was at 72 points (base 69 + 3 points from equipment).

In this massive strength difference, Lan Jue was pulled to the ground by the Boundary Line.

Boom! The curved blade brutally struck Lan Jue's ribs, causing one of them to break into a V-shape, piercing deep into his organs.

"Wow~" Blood mixed with visceral fragments spurting out as Lan Jue, heavily injured to this extent, raised his arm and pressed it against Ruisi's leg. In Lan Jue's palm lay a blue beetle, rapidly gathering energy.

Boom! A surge of force expanded from Lan Jue's palm, shattering one of Ruisi's leg bones and one of Lan Jue's arms simultaneously. At the same time, the Phantom Bees circling Su Xiao landed. Slice. Su Xiao's figure disappeared, rushing swiftly towards Lan Jue.

Just as Lan Jue and Ruisi tumbled together - because Bu Bu Wang controlled Ruisi and one of his legs had been broken, out of instinct, Ruisi bit towards Lan Jue - Lan Jue, with his lone arm, produced another beetle, which he stuffed into Ruisi's mouth.

Boom! Ruisi's head shattered, the recoil causing Lan Jue to tumble a few times. Both his arms were severed, yet he didn't give up. Even though Su Xiao had appeared before him, wielding the Dragon Slaying Flash.

"You..." Lan Jue, bleeding from seven wounds, smiled. It had been a long time since he had met an opponent like Su Xiao. Leveraging the momentum from the Slice ability, Su Xiao kicked directly with one leg. Lan Jue's shin bones broke in a V-shape.

Throughout the confrontation, Lan Jue never used 'Command · Replace' for short-range spatial movement, not because he didn't want to, but while simultaneously controlling 26 Phantom Bees, he didn't have the mental capacity to employ other abilities.

Lan Jue's choice was correct; if he had used thousands of mechanical insects to attack Su Xiao, even injuring him severely would have been difficult. Mechanical insects were far slower than Phantom Bees. Su Xiao could have easily let Ruisi hold off Lan Jue, created distance, and used the Spider Queen to snipe Lan Jue.

After synthesizing the mechanical insects into 25 Phantom Bees, those 20 Phantom Bees almost killed Su Xiao. After breaking Lan Jue's shin, Su Xiao lifted the long knife in his hand, now covered in blood - his blood.

Splurt. The long knife swung, and Lan Jue's head flew off cleanly. Thud. Lan Jue's head rolled to the ground, his headless body collapsing. The Phantom Bees on the ground, a hundred meters away, began to shatter.

The battle between Su Xiao and Lan Jue didn't involve significant moves clashing or dazzling skills flying everywhere. Instead, both sides were constantly searching for weaknesses in the other. Once a weakness appeared, they would immediately push the other toward death, leaving no room for a comeback.

As Lan Jue fell, Su Xiao heard a thud behind him - it was Ruisi, already with his head blown apart. As Lan Jue died, Su Xiao received numerous notifications.

[Tip: The Hunter has successfully killed the enemy Clearer.]

[Verification in progress...]

[Verification complete, the enemy Clearer has been completely killed, and the ID is dissolving.]

[Tip: The Hunter's action has been greatly praised, granting additional rewards.]

[You obtained 100 points of merit, 3 Large Soul Crystals, 1 Gold-quality Equipment Box, and your data query authorization level increased by 1.]

Chapter 833: Ice and Fire

"Three Large Soul Crystals and a treasure chest appeared in Su Xiao's hands. The value of the Large Soul Crystals goes without saying. If you want to improve your swordsmanship mastery quickly, you definitely need these things.

As for the 'Gold-quality Equipment Chest,' it's interesting. It can randomly produce a piece of good-quality equipment. In other words, even if Su Xiao's luck is not great, as long as he opens this chest, he can still obtain gold-quality equipment.

The only issue might be the variation in ratings. Gold-grade equipment typically ranges between 310 to 400 points. Su Xiao is confident that he can obtain 400-point rated gold-quality equipment. Hmm, probably... In order to kill Lanjue, Su Xiao used up a piece of gold-grade consumable.

Furthermore, after this, he will need to use several bottles of No.1 potion. Otherwise, the 3 points of actual toxin damage per second would be enough to take his life. Looking at Lanjue's body, Su Xiao breathed a sigh of relief. This formidable enemy had finally died. With such a formidable enemy lurking in the shadows, he didn't dare to participate in the Contract Holders' Grand Melee.

Lanjue had been successfully killed, but Su Xiao was heavily injured. He urgently needed to find a safe place to rest. Bubu Wang ran out from the bushes. Its Ice and Snow Goddess Aura reduced Su Xiao's life loss speed by a third. Not only that, but Bubu Wang also used its loyalty to its master (active skill) to heal Su Xiao, restoring 60% of his health.

Su Xiao's dangerously low health quickly recovered, and the intense pain all over his body noticeably subsided. "This hidden place needs to be ventilated, safe, and difficult to be discovered."

"Woof." Bubu Wang turned and ran deep into the grass. It had already found a safe spot beforehand to prevent Su Xiao from sustaining severe injuries after the battle. Five minutes later, Bubu Wang brought Su Xiao to the entrance of a cave. It was pitch black inside the cave.

Bubu Wang rushed into the cave first, and after a few seconds, sounds of fighting echoed from within. "Roar! Ao~ Ao~" A bruised and swollen brown bear rushed out of the cave. Bite marks could still be seen on its fleshy paws. The brown bear's big, round eyes were full of grievances. It was sound asleep at home when suddenly, a thief invaded its home.

Could the brown bear endure it? Could it? Of course, it could. The opponent was too strong, and it almost made the brown bear doubt its life. So the brown bear fled. However, when it reached the door of its home, the brown bear saw a human covered in blood.

In the past, the brown bear would have easily killed this human. However, this human's aura was terrifying. With a thud, the brown bear in front of Su Xiao collapsed to the ground, clutching its head. Su Xiao walked past the brown bear. After Su Xiao entered the cave, the brown bear fled in haste.

This bear was so scared by Su Xiao that it ran upright and exceptionally fast. Sitting inside the cave, which had no strange smell and good ventilation, Su Xiao took out two bottles of No.1 potion and some bandages to start treating his injuries. He also used the Qinggang Shadow Energy to eliminate the severe poison in his body.

About an hour later, Su Xiao, who had rested, opened his eyes. "Very well, continuing the fight won't be a problem." The combination of Ice and Snow Goddess Aura, No.1 potion, and Qinggang Shadow Energy rapidly restored Su Xiao's injuries. He had no issues with his stamina. His battle with Lanjue lasted 5 minutes at most; it was just intense.

Both sides understood each other's abilities so that the battle would be brief. Taking Bubu Wang along, Su Xiao, now 80% recovered, headed deeper into the ruins, towards the second area of the Contract Holders' Grand Melee. After a few minutes of hurried travel, Su Xiao heard the booming sound of explosions coming from the natural maze in the second area.

The Contract Holders from Tianqi Park were breaking through the second area. Indeed, numerical superiority was an undeniable advantage. Moreover, the side from Samsara Park was not just defending the second area; the stone bridge in the rear was more suitable for defence.

Seeing this situation, Su Xiao quietly entered the second area. He was currently behind the Tianqi Park Contract Holders. The Contract Holders from Tianqi Park would never have expected anyone from Samsara Park to be behind them. After all, they had already cleared infiltrators trying to get behind them multiple times.

The more unexpected something was, the more likely it was to happen. Hence, Su Xiao, currently wielding the Butchering Short Blade, slowly approached a priest in white robes from behind. This was a healing class Contract Holder.

The priest in white robes looked relaxed. He was among numerous teammates and had terrain cover. The possibility of enemies attacking him was minimal. Watching the frontline Contract Holders fighting bloodily, the priest in white robes smirked. He felt he had made the wisest choice by choosing a healing profession.

The treatment was generous, and it wasn't dangerous. During battles, he only needed to release healing skills behind his teammates. The lives of those front-liners were in his hands, and this feeling of controlling others' lives felt good.

Thinking about this, the priest in white robes yawned. He wanted the war to end quickly and in victory. Then, he could gain a lot of benefits and continue to grow stronger. Once back in the real world, he could relax, drink tea, and flirt with girls.

"I wonder if Peggy misses me. Damn this war world, when will it end..." Before the priest in white robes could finish his words, he felt a tingling sensation in his throat. Subsequently, his body began to weaken rapidly, and darkness swiftly enveloped him. A swift throat cut ended the life of the priest in white robes, and Su Xiao continued moving forward.

Undoubtedly, this was an excellent opportunity to eliminate the enemy's backline. Bubu Wang was responsible for searching for the enemy's backline and scouting ahead. Its abilities were well-suited for reconnaissance. If discovered, it would pretend to be a statue. Once an enemy was spotted, Su Xiao would immediately move in and slit their throat.

With the Butchering Short Blade and the mastery of swordsmanship, even the slender bodies of the healers could be dealt with in a single strike. Unfortunately, he was still missing one piece of the Demon Hunting Set. If complete, Su Xiao's attack power would be even more terrifying.

Healers and support class Contract Holders fell one after another. From the frontline where the enemies were being killed, Hii realized that something was amiss. "Liuli, go deal with the assassin in the rear. We've set up genuine detection guards. It's strange how someone managed to sneak through."

"Understood." Liuli, beside Hii, dodged a bullet, taking advantage of Hii's cover, and successfully retreated. Little did Liuli know that the person she was looking for was Su Xiao.

Hii's fingers moved through the air in front of her. Crackling sounds emerged as a transparent crystal network spread forward.

Any Samsara Park Contract Holder touched by the crystal network would undergo a few judgments. If they failed, they would crystallize. "Shatter." With a crackling sound, the bodies of three Samsara Park Contract Holders in front of Hii shattered into large crystal fragments.

A one-armed captain stared at Hii. Crystal traces were visible at the site of his severed arm. This woman was too strong; he had almost been killed by her earlier. "Where's Yanchen? Quickly, get him to deal with this woman." The one-armed captain shattered the crystal at his wound, and faint red crystal shards flew off.

"Not sure." Beside the one-armed captain, a black-haired, red-eyed youth was faint and about to lose consciousness. He had been holding off Hii all this while. In this hour-long battle, he had died 168 times. Although he had a demi-human lineage that granted him immortality, it wasn't absolute.

"Damn it, with this woman breaking through, we can't hold on for much longer. Keeping the second area for a day is impossible. Prepare to retreat to defend the stone bridge." The one-armed captain's eyes glinted with ferocity. Although he knew he wasn't Hii's match, he didn't retreat. If he did, many of his subordinates would die.

"You guys haven't escaped; it's unexpected." The crystal floated as Hii spoke, staring at the one-armed captain and the black-blooded youth. If this were a battle inside Tianqi Park, the enemies would have fled already.

"This feeling... is good." Hii's lips curled up. Beneath her rational and strategic demeanour, she had a fearless heart towards death. This was what set her apart from the other Contract Holders in Tianqi Park, and it was because of this trait that she achieved what she has today.

...

On one side of the battlefield, flames clashed with ice and a large amount of steam spread.

Yanchen stood within the scorching steam, his complexion not looking good. His abilities were being countered.

"Only flames at this temperature won't kill me." A young, one-eyed man waved his hand, dispelling the steam around him. He stood at around 1.6 meters tall but exuded an imposing aura of 6.1 meters.

"Bold statement. If I remember correctly, your name is Winter?" Yanchen moved his slightly numb shoulders. There was a layer of ice crystals on his shoulders. "Yes, Winter. I heard your name is Yanchen. From the codename, I knew we were destined to be opponents."

"I don't use codenames. My name remains the same, Yanchen."

"Oh?" Winter was momentarily surprised, a smile appearing on his face. "How coincidental, so am I." Winter charged straight towards Yanchen; he was a close combatant.

In a surprising turn of events, Yanchen rushed forward holding a staff. His steps were steady, and his momentum vigorous. He was also engaging in close combat!

In Yanchen's words, a mage who couldn't engage in close combat wasn't qualified. Judging from the bruises on Winter's face, Yanchen's close combat abilities were powerful. The gold-quality staff held by Yanchen was wielded vigorously.

Flames surged from the staff. Any structure touched by the staff would turn into ashes. This made people suspect if this was the correct usage of a staff.

Chapter 834: I am Not a Master

Boom!

Yan Chen, wielding the staff, was pushed back, the team wrapped in a layer of ice crystals.

Staggering back a few steps, Yan Chen looked at the ice crystals on the staff. The fire elements were reattached to the team, shattering the ice crystals.

"Ice-based assassin abilities. It seems Xi knows a lot about my information."

Yan Chen took off his mage robe, standing bare-chested. Numerous magic circuits were inscribed on his body, causing Lin Dong to furrow his brow upon seeing them.

"In Xi's data, am I a spell tank or a fire mage?"

As Yan Chen spoke, he twisted the staff in his hand. With a clang, the improved golden-quality team extended significantly, a thirty-centimetre-long blade appearing at the tip. This golden staff astonishingly transformed into a two-meter-long fire-type magic spear, emitting intense heat. The surrounding air began to distort. This was one of Yan Chen's abilities, supported by several passive skills for close combat.

Staff Transformation Lv.26 (Passive): Can transform the staff into a magic spear, endowing it with the same quality capabilities—magical spear quality (golden).

Polearm Mastery Lv.30 (Passive): Increases polearm attack by 92%, significantly improving polearm usage skills.

Weapon Attribute Enchantment Lv.10 (class-specific passive): Can infuse highly concentrated elemental power of its type onto the weapon. In the case of the fire element, weapon attacks will carry an additional 100 points of fire damage and subsequent burning effects, which are stackable.

Flame Lance Knight Lv.32 (class-specific passive): While mounted, you are immune to 10% damage and can freely convert between strength, agility, intelligence, and stamina.

...

These are some of Yan Chen's primary abilities. Spells like Fireball and Fire Rocket are used to confuse enemies.

Yan Chen is neither a long-range mage nor a spell tank; those are just appearances. He is a Flame Lance Knight, an extremely rare profession. Though not as scarce as the Shadow of Destruction, this profession isn't numerous. Its main attributes are stamina and intelligence.

Stamina ensures survivability, while intelligence's primary role is weapon enchantment, enhancing the power of the enchanted attribute.

When entering the mounted state, Yan Chen converts intelligence into strength. This way, he becomes entirely focused on close combat.

The magic spear spun in Yan Chen's hand as he looked at Lin Dong with a sarcastic smile.

"Come out, Pyak."

Yan Chen stamped his foot, and a magic circle appeared beside him. A sizeable feline creature engulfed in flames appeared. It resembled a tiger but was more extensive, entirely engulfed in flames.

Yan Chen mounted the Flame Tiger Pyak, converting intelligence into strength. Surging strength emerged within him. At this moment, Yan Chen had 80 points of power.

"Ice-based little assassin, I'm starting the second round."

Yan Chen patted the Flame Tiger under him. This beast, from an unknown world, pounced towards Lin Dong.

Boom! Boom!

Flames exploded, turning the labyrinth into a bulldozer, with chunks of stone flying everywhere as Yan Chen charged.

Five minutes later, with a thud, a broken body fell to the ground—it was Lin Dong.

Lin Dong's lower body was gone, and his upper body was covered in crisscrossing burn marks. There was no fresh blood flowing from the wounds; they had been seared by high temperatures, a more severe injury than bleeding.

"Cough, cough, cough..."

Lin Dong, lying on the ground, coughed up some blood, the heat of which burnt his mouth, indicating the abundance of fire elements within him.

Now blinded, Lin Dong lay on the ground, his body convulsing involuntarily.

A Flame Tiger approached, its claws stepping on Lin Dong's body.

"Roar!"

The roar of the Flame Tiger echoed throughout the maze. Sitting on the tiger's back, Yan Chen pierced Lin Dong's throat with a spear.

"You're just a petty assassin. Maybe you're good against long-range mages, but I am not one."

Yan Chen speared through Lin Dong's throat, and Lin Dong convulsed a few times before lying still.

"I've hidden for so long. It's time to give you a surprise, Xi."

At this moment, Yan Chen no longer had the aura of a mage. He was fiery, full of strength, and seemed somewhat unstoppable when riding his mount.

Yan Chen took out a communicator, spoke a few words, then hung up, heading towards Xi's direction.

...

Behind the maze.

With a slicing sound, a throat was cut, and a support-type contract holder suddenly lost all strength. Before the blood hit the ground, Su Xiao had vanished.

Standing behind a stone pillar, Su Xiao's right hand held a blood-dripping butcher's knife, and his left hand held a textual communicator.

"Found another lone healer. Efficient."

Su Xiao dashed out from behind the pillar, disappearing several times within the maze. With the help of Bubu Wang, he had already killed over a dozen healing or support-type contract holders.

Among the contract holders' abilities during chaos, the most annoying was undoubtedly the healing abilities.

The contract holders didn't have much health. When two contract holders fought, if there was no overwhelming strength on either side, the side with a healing contract holder had a probability of over 80% of winning.

Moreover, the number of healing contract holders on the Weather Paradise side was several times that of the Reincarnation Paradise side. Yes, several times.

Given the survival environment of Reincarnation Paradise, apart from adventure team members, no one would develop healing abilities. Their offensive and survival capabilities were too weak. Without others' protection, the survival possibility of a healing contract holder in the derived world was not high.

Even with teammates' protection, whether temporarily brought in teammates were reliable or not was unknown. Therefore, healers and main tanks were the rarest contract holders in Reincarnation Paradise. Wild main tanks could still appear, as they had a survival foundation. As for wild healers, there were hardly any, maybe one in a hundred, perhaps one in a thousand.

The situation in the Dawn Paradise was different. Here, the treatment of contract holders was relatively mild. Contract holders generally didn't harbor deadly grudges against each other, which also provided a survival environment for wild healers.

The number of healing contract holders in the Dawn Paradise was already higher, and with the present large organization of nearly a thousand people within the ancient ruins, having a higher number of healing contract holders was considered normal.

Because of this, relying on their strong endurance, the Dawn Paradise side managed to push the Reincarnation Paradise side back to the edge behind the maze, almost to the extent of retreating to the stone bridge.

What Su Xiao was doing now was reducing the number of healing contract holders on the Dawn Paradise side. Leaving aside the pitiful combat awareness and vigilance of these healing contract holders, with their small frames, they were completely stepped on by Su Xiao.

Su Xiao's plan was to kill as much as possible before the enemy found him, to give his side an advantage. Once the enemy discovered him, he had to return to his side as soon as possible. Though his position seemed safe, it was actually full of danger. He was near the enemy's long-range contract holders. Once discovered, he would face dozens or even hundreds of long-range contract holders focusing fire on him, which would be dangerous.

The risk was high, but so was the reward. Every time Su Xiao slit the throat of a healing contract holder, he gained 3 to 4 points of merit. In just a short while, he had gained 51 points of merit. The vigilance of these healing and support-type contract holders was extremely poor. At first, Su Xiao even doubted that these were not second-tier contract holders but first-tier ones.

Chapter 835: Kill Squad

Several healing and support contractees were injured or killed in a short period, catching the attention of Xi, who sent Luli to investigate. However, even Luli couldn't immediately identify the

culprit's whereabouts. In the rear of the Tianqi Paradise camp, after Su Xiao killed an auxiliary contractee, he vaguely sensed someone approaching. "Finally found you, detestable assassin."

Luli, accompanied by three others, a male earth elemental contractee, a sensory female contractee, and a muscular man wielding a massive hammer—this man stood at least three meters tall and appeared cumbersome but undoubtedly possessed significant strength, possibly developing a single attribute with a strength attribute reaching 80 points.

Luli wasn't alone; she typically accompanied her sister or operated within a team. Her team consisted of five members: Luli herself specialized in control, melee, and ranged combat; the earth elemental contractee focused on defence; the sensory contractee located enemies and connected the team mentally during combat, ensuring better coordination.

As for the muscular man, he had one task: to attack when Luli controlled the enemies. His abilities were focused on enhancing attacks geared toward instant kills. The core of the team was Luli, whose strong control abilities Su Xiao had experienced once before, trapping enemies in illusions and distorting their perceptions.

"Southeast, 26 meters, behind a stone pillar." The female sensory contractee relayed this information to Luli and others. "OK, let's start with a shot to force him out." Luli, being the team's commander through mental communication, decided that she was the most capable and had the skills for command.

"Hmm." In the mental connection, the male sniper in the distance spoke. This mental link was facilitated by the female sensory contractee's ability, allowing the five to communicate telepathically to avoid strategic leaks.

Swish! A bullet struck. Stone chips flew as a half-weathered stone pillar nearby snapped in half, its upper portion landing in pieces like tofu. A light blue energy shield flickered into existence behind the broken pillar, shielding a man in a black windbreaker.

"Unexpected, encountering an 'acquaintance.'" Su Xiao observed Luli not far away. For some reason, he recalled a nursery rhyme, despite not knowing its name—he listened to that ridiculous nursery rhyme for hours, sung off-key with fluctuating tones.

"Retreat!" Luli instinctively wanted to escape, possibly suffering from 'Su Xiao phobia.' The two previous encounters left a deep impression—one nearly cost her life, and the other used her for manipulation.

"Luli, stay calm." The earth elemental contractee, a composed middle-aged man, advised her. "Dealing with powerful lone contractees like this is what we excel at." Upon hearing the advice, Luli calmed down. "The opponent is strong, powerful, bordering on abnormal. Our chance is only once."

"Understood."

"Clear." With a composed demeanour, Luli quickly formulated a strategy to deal with Su Xiao.

"Strategy C." As Luli spoke, Su Xiao suddenly vanished from his spot. "He's here!" Boom!

A wall of earth formed not far from Luli and her team. Luli and the sensory contractee retreated. Also retreating was the muscular man with the giant hammer; although he seemed clumsy, he had a poor defence. His abilities were focused on attacks.

Ding! A flash of a blade shattered the earthen wall, making Luli's four teammates realize the power of Su Xiao's attack. If he got close, casualties would follow, disrupting their formation and leading to their defeat.

"Mad Illusionist: Enchanted Illusion." Luli used a technique to mislead Su Xiao's senses, trapping him in an illusion. Su Xiao's surroundings changed; Luli disappeared along with her teammates. It wasn't the first time Su Xiao had experienced this. He immediately activated a counter shield, forming a circular energy shield to protect himself.

His perception, vision, hearing—all were misled. Only his sense of touch remained intact.

Click, click... A layer of granite adhered to Su Xiao's calves, securing him firmly to the ground. He was curious to know if this was real or an illusion.

Su Xiao held the Slash Dragon Flash in his hand. The Disconnection Line on his left hand scattered on the nearby ground, waiting for enemies to approach. However, under the influence of the 'Mad Illusionist: Enchanted Illusion,' even if enemies approached, Su Xiao couldn't perceive it.

"Just 230 meters left, soon..." Muttering to himself, Su Xiao didn't know what he was saying.

Crack! A bullet pierced Su Xiao's left shoulder, ignoring the counter shield, piercing through his body. Judging from the impact, it was likely a sniper rifle bullet. Whether this was an illusion or reality was uncertain.

The actual scenario was Su Xiao standing in place. About ten meters away, Luli's hands were clasped together, focused on confusing Su Xiao. The earth elemental contractee created high-density granite to fix the surrounding counter shields to the ground, restricting Su Xiao's movements and making it easier for his teammates to attack.

The female sensory contractee's fingers pointed to the ground, desperately blocking the surrounding perception. The male sniper in the distance continued to shoot, bullets deflected by the counter shield.

"What kind of ability is this? It's stopped seventeen bullets. This won't work; Luli, how much longer can you mislead him?" The earth elemental contractee spoke, creating a four-meter-tall stone golem facing the counter shield, vigorously pounding it.

"Three minutes at most. In two minutes, the Enchanted Illusion will become unstable." After a moment of contemplation, Luli looked at the muscular man with the giant hammer. "Dawn, go ahead, try to break that guy's energy shell with one strike."

"Got it." Dawn nodded, holding the giant hammer in both hands and rushing toward Su Xiao. However, his speed could have improved. Despite his lack of speed, Dawn's attack power was astounding, leaving people amazed. When he reached Su Xiao, he raised the long-handled hammer high and struck with all his might.

Boom! The hammer struck the counter shield, releasing a shockwave that shook the ground within a dozen meters—the granite surrounding the counter shield shattered from the powerful shock.

With a crack the counter shield showed fine cracks. Blood dripped from the corner of Su Xiao's mouth; he was injured from the recoil. After the strike, Dawn staggered back a few steps, then plopped down, dropping the giant hammer with a clang that left a shallow pit in the ground.

Chapter 836: Counterattack

Seeing this scene, Liuli, and the other four individuals were taken aback; the sturdiness of the counterattack shield surpassed their imagination.

"Daon, continue."

Liuli's voice carried a hint of urgency. Once Su Xiao recovered, it would mean their deaths.

"Give me 5 seconds."

Daon's hands trembled. He had pursued attack power excessively, almost neglecting other abilities, which resulted in many drawbacks. As a result, his attack power had reached a terrifying level.

After five seconds passed, Daon stood up and once again picked up that enormous hammer, charging forward in the same manner as before, lifting the hammer and swinging with all his might.

The massive hammer fell like a meteor striking the earth.

Thud!

The ground beneath Su Xiao's feet cracked extensively, the counterattack shield was covered in fissures, and blood dripped from Su Xiao's chin, yet he remained motionless in place.

Several dozen meters away, a stealthy figure appeared, standing on a stone pillar, gazing at Su Xiao.

After the second hammer strike, the counterattack shield around Su Xiao was on the verge of breaking. Along with the bullets and attacks from the stone giant, the guard wouldn't hold out for much longer.

"Almost, we can end this nightmare soon."

Liuli's breath was somewhat urgent. She couldn't understand one thing: where did the husky following their opponent disappear to?

Just five more seconds and Daon would recover. With the remaining durability of the counterattack shield, it wouldn't be able to withstand a third hammer strike.

Suddenly, the motionless Su Xiao put away the Dragon-Slaying Flash. A short knife appeared in his hand momentarily, then he retracted it, taking out a crossbow.

As if receiving some information, Su Xiao put away the crossbow, and a heavy sniper rifle appeared in his hand.

The barrel slowly lifted as Su Xiao seemed to be gauging the angle.

Bang!

The Spider Queen fired a shot, shattering the counterattack shield. A bullet flew directly into Su Xiao's abdomen.

"Not good!"

Liuli's pupils contracted suddenly, and she instinctively stood up.

Bang!

After the gunshot, Liuli was pushed back several meters, thrown by the powerful impact, falling to the ground. Her left arm and a portion of her body shattered, exploding into a mess of flesh.

While Liuli was sent flying, Su Xiao's gaze returned to clarity. Bubuwang, dozens of meters away, withdrew and no longer transmitted information to Su Xiao.

As Su Xiao put away the Spider Queen, the Dragon-Slaying Flash appeared in his hand.

"Block him."

The female perceptionist stepped back a few paces while Daon lifted the giant hammer and retreated, and the earth-type contract holder stepped forward, his hands emitting a sandy yellow glow.

Whoosh!

A bullet shot toward Su Xiao at an incredible speed.

Su Xiao swung his arm, a resounding crack echoing as he deflected the bullet. He stepped on a puddle of blood on the ground—his own.

"Here I come."

As Su Xiao stepped on the ground, he instantly disappeared from the others, using his blinking ability.

Splat.

Blood splattered as the female perceptions were bisected at the waist. In Su Xiao's perception, she was more troublesome than Liuli. Her assistance to Liuli had kept Su Xiao under control for so long.

While slaying the female perceptionist, Su Xiao tilted his head, a bullet whizzing past his ear. His short black hair fluttered as Su Xiao, relying on his reflex speed, miraculously avoided the sniper rifle bullet.

"Escaped?"

The Earth-type contract holder was astonished. He was well aware of the speed of his teammate's bullets and believed dodging such a bullet was impossible.

In reality, it was quite achievable. With fast reflexes, high agility, and sufficient combat experience, avoiding such bullets wasn't difficult. Compared to the Ghost Bees of Lanjue, which were more than twice as fast as these bullets, Su Xiao had also dodged them. To him, the sniper's bullets were inferior to Lanjue's.

As he dodged the bullet, Su Xiao swiftly charged toward the muscular man wielding the massive hammer. This guy posed a significant threat; even Su Xiao would be in trouble if attacked.

Daon's masseter muscle protruded as he raised the hammer, preparing to strike Su Xiao, who was charging toward him.

The massive hammer descended, but Su Xiao, in his forward charge, dodged it by a hair's breadth.

The longsword thrust forward, surging with cyan steel shadow energy.

Splat.

The longsword pierced through Daon's chin, exiting through the skull. Just as Su Xiao prepared to deliver a few more blows, Daon's body collapsed, which surprised Su Xiao. He would have thought the opponent was feigning death if he hadn't received the kill prompt. The opponent didn't seem like a 'glass cannon' from his appearance.

Only the semi-unconscious Liuli and the Earth-type contract holder remained on the field. As for the sniper in the distance, there was no rush to deal with them.

While finishing off Daon, Su Xiao's momentum didn't stop as he charged toward the Earth-type contract holder. He had barely stopped throughout the encounter.

During his charge, Su Xiao suddenly leaped half a meter high.

Boom.

A half-meter-high stone pillar rose from the ground. Su Xiao landed perfectly on it, elegant and graceful.

Squatting on the stone pillar, Su Xiao's leg muscles slightly bulged, and the Dragon-Slaying Flash returned to its sheath.

Pushing off the pillar, Su Xiao dashed toward the Earth-type contract holder like a bullet leaving the barrel.

With a crash, the stone pillar under his feet shattered. In an instant, he had leaped to a position five meters in front of the Earth-type contract holder.

Seeing this distance, the Earth-type contract holder sighed with relief. He was ready to limit Su Xiao's speed and then retreat.

"Ringbreaker Blood Blade."

Clang.

More than a dozen blood-red blade energies slashed toward the Earth-type contract holder. Three stone walls appeared before him, held up by his palm.

Swish.

The blood-red blade energies cut through the stone walls. After a moment, there were a few heavy thuds behind the walls, which burst, burying the Earth-type contract holder inside, blood seeping from the pile of stones.

Floating mid-air, Su Xiao formed a shield of 100 points of strength beside him.

Bang.

A bullet struck the energy shield, shattering it. The shield's strength just managed to block the bullet.

Using the momentum from the bullet, Su Xiao landed behind a weathered stone wall. He sheathed the Dragon-Slaying Flash at his feet and took out the Spider Queen; there were still 8 bullets left in the magazine.

Su Xiao leaned to the side, with a portion of his upper body exposed from behind the stone wall, aiming the gun. His breathing slowed, and a bullet flew toward him.

Bang.

The energy shield blocked the bullet, which broke just as Su Xiao squeezed the trigger. In his sight, the crosshair had already locked onto the enemy 300 meters away.

The enemy was hidden above a twenty-meter-high stone pillar, a good sniper position providing firepower support without exposure to enemy long-range attacks.

Su Xiao pulled the trigger.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang...

After five shots, the top of the stone pillar 300 meters away was smashed, and debris mixed with shattered body parts fell.

Having done all this, Su Xiao put away the Spider Queen, pulled out the War Dragon Flash beside his feet, and spat out blood.

Su Xiao approached the dazed Liuli. Liuli regained some consciousness. She was just about to communicate with her teammates using mental linkage when she realized that the link had disappeared.

Noticing this, Liuli's eyes dimmed. She looked around and saw a pile of bloody stones and a teammate with a pierced skull crawling on the ground with great difficulty. Only the upper body of the female perceptionist remained.

Seeing the surviving teammate, Liuli's eyes became somewhat moist. At that moment, a longsword pierced through the female perceptionist's chest from top to bottom, penetrating her heart.

"No..."

Liuli wanted to get up, but a part of her left side was shattered, and she couldn't stand up.

"Farewell, Little Songstress."

Before Liuli could say anything, Su Xiao swung his sword, severing Liuli. Despite being a cute girl, her abilities were difficult; she had almost taken Su Xiao's life.

Chapter 837: Retreat to Stone Bridge

As Su Xiao gazed at Luli's lifeless body, he couldn't help but ponder why the cute girls others encountered always seemed to be allies, offering various kinds of help and abundant benefits. In contrast, of the ten cute girls he had met, six wanted to kill him, while the remaining four felt he was too strong and fled in advance.

Facing this situation, Su Xiao couldn't help but reflect. It may be an issue with his approach and his style of dealing with situations. However, he wasn't prepared to change his ways.

To him, an enemy was an enemy, regardless of appearance or status. Everyone was equal.

Even when encountering gruesome enemies, Su Xiao couldn't resist the urge to deliver a few extra strikes, especially towards someone like the 'Orphan of Resentment - Xius,' whose whole body was just a grotesque mass of flesh and bones, disgustingly ugly.

After dealing with Luli's team, Su Xiao was ready to continue his "old business," which involved assassinating healing or support-contracted individuals. However, upon nearing the battlefield, he

realized the situation wasn't favourable. The Healing-contracted individuals from the Paradise of Reincarnation were too numerous, showing signs of breaking through the Second Zone.

Before the Second Zone was breached, Su Xiao needed to regroup with his own more significant force. Given the overwhelming difference in the number of healing-contracted individuals, the fact that the Paradise of Reincarnation had defended the Second Zone for so long was quite incredible.

One of the primary reasons was that the Paradise of Reincarnation's contracted individuals were a group of madmen and lunatics during battle, utterly devoid of the concept of retreat or escape. It was either kill them or give up the assault.

Leveraging their numerical advantage and numerous healing-contracted individuals, after fifteen overall attacks, the Paradise of Reincarnation finally saw hope in breaching the Second Zone.

...

Deep within the Second Zone, behind a stone wall, a dog's head peeked out from an aperture in the stone wall. It was Bu Bu Wang. Su Xiao, wanting to regroup with his allies, knew that charging in like the previous wars between the Imperial Army and the Tribe was almost suicidal.

Doing so would mean facing the encirclement of nearly a hundred contracted individuals of the Second Rank. He had nothing to gain and everything to lose. Fortunately, Bu Bu Wang could scout. If discovered, Bu Bu Wang could either play dead or infiltrate the enemy's ranks.

Under Bu Bu Wang's cover, Su Xiao evaded many of the Paradise of Reincarnation's contracted individuals. Half an hour later, he encountered several dozen contracted individuals fighting each other, marking the edge of the battlefield.

"Five seconds later, charge behind me," Su Xiao patted Bu Bu Wang's head, silently counting. As the five seconds elapsed, Su Xiao suddenly dashed out, briskly advancing toward several Paradise of Reincarnation contracted individuals who were facing away from him.

During the battle, both sides had apparent identifiers. The contracted individuals from the Paradise of Reincarnation had a red-coloured light floating above their heads, while those from the Heavenly Gate Paradise had a green-coloured light. This characteristic was very noticeable. Even if they used skills to turn invisible, this light would also vanish, but it couldn't be turned off until the contracted individual died.

As Su Xiao suddenly burst out, the dark shade of the red light above his head indicated that he had killed many contracted individuals from the Heavenly Gate Paradise. Seeing Su Xiao appear behind several contracted individuals from the Paradise of Reincarnation, both sides were momentarily stunned.

The contracted individuals from the Paradise of Reincarnation, after noticing the colour of Su Xiao's light, immediately launched energy arrows toward him. After clashing with Lan Jue, Su Xiao was opposed to any arrow-like attacks. He instinctively tried to dodge, but the speed of this energy arrow was too fast, almost hitting him instantly.

[Prompt: You are affected by 'Embrace of the Arrow.' Charisma attribute check... Intelligence attribute check...]

[Intelligence attribute check passed.]

[Charisma attribute check failed.]

[Prompt: You will need clarification for 1.6 seconds.]

[Prompt: Level 30 Master Swordsman's additional ability 'Blade of the Mind' activated. You ignore this control effect.]

...

Upon being hit by the energy arrow, a dozen long-range attackers were ready to focus fire on Su Xiao. However, Su Xiao was not controlled at all. Instead, he rushed to the rear of a close combatant.

Just before being struck by Su Xiao, this close combatant had only 32% of their life remaining. Su Xiao's strike didn't kill them, but they died under the terrifying actual damage from the Green-Steel Shadow and the Devil's Mark.

Creating a breakthrough, Su Xiao charged into his forces, with Bu Bu Wang following closely behind. Everyone's focus was on Su Xiao; no one paid attention to Bu Bu Wang. Su Xiao made his way out of the Second Zone and reached the vicinity of a stone bridge, temporarily safe.

Several contracted individuals guarded the stone bridge, and upon seeing the dark red light above Su Xiao's head, they were not only amazed but also curious.

"Bro, how many have you killed?"

"Forgot." Indeed, Su Xiao had forgotten. All he knew was that he had killed many healing and support-contracted individuals and had also exterminated Luli's team. Su Xiao proceeded towards the Twilight Palace to take a short break.

...

There was a person who must harbour deep hatred towards Su Xiao Xi. Setting aside the fact that Su Xiao had killed many healing and support-contracted individuals, just killing her sister made Su Xiao her mortal enemy.

However, Xi didn't have time to resent Su Xiao. She was faced with a Flame Spear Knight who wielded a flame-long spear, which was quite challenging for her; his abilities had a certain restraint against hers.

Although the crystal had a high melting point, the flame spear in the hands of the Flame Spear Knight exceeded that temperature. Though Flame Spear had the upper hand against Xi, his current condition could have been better. His chest had several crystallized spots, and most of his left arm had crystallized; it would shatter with the slightest touch.

Although he had the advantage, after half an hour of fighting, Flame Spear found out, to his astonishment, that this woman could actually resurrect! Right on the spot! At that moment, Flame Spear's feeling could only be expressed as 'damn!'

"She's already died once, and upon resurrection, she'll manifest a phantom of a cat and restore her status to over 80%. Not easy to deal with," Flame Spear understood. Continuing like this wouldn't work; by enchanting his flame spear with fire attributes, he would continuously consume mana, and his mana reserves were already low.

"Forget it; fall back to the stone bridge." Flame Spear issued an order through the war channel and began retreating. Strangely enough, instead of chasing after them, Xi revealed a smile. "Perhaps this meeting will be our farewell."

Xi's words left Flame Spear puzzled, but now was an excellent opportunity to retreat to the stone bridge. He temporarily ignored the stinging sensation from the crystallized positions.

Soon, the contracted individuals from the Paradise of Reincarnation fell back to three stone bridges.

Now, all they needed to do was hold these bridges and be cautious of any contracted individuals with flying abilities. The pressure suddenly decreased. The contracted individuals from the Heavenly Gate Paradise took position inside the Second Zone's maze, seemingly intending to make this their headquarters.

After a round of chaotic battles, there were 658 surviving contracted individuals from the Paradise of Reincarnation, with 137 casualties, while the Heavenly Gate Paradise had 783 surviving individuals, with 202 casualties.

This casualty count was very unfavourable for the Heavenly Gate Paradise, considering they had a numerical advantage and their healing-contracted individuals were several times more than those of the Paradise of Reincarnation. Xi held a report received from a perception-contracted individual. "There are too many casualties."

Xi sighed, not because she was mourning the dead but because she was concerned about a potential scenario where a large number of contracted individuals might abandon the mission due to heavy casualties. Glancing around, Xi saw some contracted individuals sitting around the maze. Some had a vacant look in their eyes, while others lit up cigarettes, quietly puffing away, unaware that they had even lit them.

"Xi, with the current situation, we're not without hope. On the contrary, we have a good chance here because this terrain is perfect for that thing..." A female gunner stepped forward. "I know." Xi replied casually, turning away and walking deeper into the maze. When there was no one around her, she leaned against a stone pillar.

Drip, drip... Crystal-clear droplets fell. Luli, her sister, had died, died in battle. When Xi smiled, others smiled along, but when she shed tears, she could only cry alone. That was the heavy burden a leader had to bear.

"Luli, rest in peace. Perhaps one day, I will join you. But before that, I have to win this war. You can't die in vain. When dealing with lunatics, one must employ crazier methods." Xi turned away, her eyes glistening. She seemed to have forgotten that there was a faint black hue appearing within the crystal floating by her side.

Chapter 838: Electrotherapy

"Twilight Palace, seventh floor. The painful cries of the wounded and the smell of blood permeated the seventh floor, where contractees wrapped in bandages sat scattered around.

"Boss, when's dinner? I'm starving to death." A contractee with a broken leg leaned against the wall, chewing on something. His jaw muscles were well developed, probably from constant chewing.

"It's almost ready. Wait a bit." A team leader responded impatiently, surrounded by a few other leaders engaged in discussion. "Boss, even if I die, at least let me die full."

The contractee with the broken leg murmured. After noticing his team leader's expression, he fell silent. Several team leaders gathered together, led by Yan Chen.

"The first wave of attacks was successfully repelled. Based on the current casualties, the Paradise of Reincarnation will only hold out against Heavenly Gate Paradise for up to ten days. If we continue launching such assaults daily, at most five days, and our numbers will far exceed the Paradise of Reincarnation's, then we can consider counterattacking..."

As Yan Chen spoke, he noticed several team leaders staring at his hand intently. "What's wrong?"

"Yan Chen, your hand..." A team leader pointed at Yan Chen's hand, looking grim.

"My hand?" Yan Chen raised his crystallized left arm. He had previously taken medication to remove the abnormal condition, which had minimal effect, but there were signs of recovery. The crystallization wasn't an irreversible process.

Raising the crystallized left arm, Yan Chen noticed large cracks appearing on it, on the verge of shattering. For a close combat spear master like Yan Chen, losing a hand was a significant blow, significantly reducing his combat capability.

An OL-dressed beauty beside Yan Chen immediately placed her hand over his crystallized arm.

"Boss, haven't you received a prompt?" A pink-coloured energy surged from the OL-dressed beauty's hand, adhering to Yan Chen's left arm like glue, sealing the cracked arm.

"Taffy, come here." The OL-dressed beauty shouted, and soon, a slightly chubby-faced girl with a faint sweet smell approached. She emitted a sense of innocence. "Not good." Taffy observed Yan Chen's left arm and realized the severity of the situation. She was Yan Chen's chief healer, skilled in healing-type skills and medical arts.

Most healing contractees relied on skills, but Taffy was different. In the real world, she was an intern doctor and integrated medical skills with healing-type skills upon entering the Reincarnation Paradise.

"Very serious?" Yan Chen suddenly recalled Xi's previous words, 'Perhaps this meeting will be our farewell.'

"Extremely, extremely serious. These crystals are gradually invading your body."

Taffy gestured behind her, and several of Yan Chen's trusted aides quickly erected a tent on the seventh floor with a red cross on top.

"Excuse me." Yan Chen walked toward the tent, and suddenly, someone spoke up. "If there's no other way, you can come to me." Playing games on a tablet within the Twilight Palace, Su Xiao's surroundings were filled with contractees. It was impossible to open treasure chests or engage in similar activities, leaving only games as a pastime.

Hearing Su Xiao's words, Yan Chen paused, and Taffy pouted beside him. "Brother Baiye, do you have a solution too?"

"I do, but it's not gentle. If you were a mage, there would be no way, but fortunately, you're not." Su Xiao's fingers danced rapidly. His puzzle-solving game was getting more complex. As for Yan Chen

not being a mage, Su Xiao had that feeling since their initial meeting. Yan Chen's aura was different from that of a mage.

"What solution?" Yan Chen wasn't worried about Su Xiao's ill intentions. With the Reincarnation Paradise practically confined within the Twilight Palace, infighting at this time would be brainless.

"Electrotherapy." Su Xiao's fingertips sparked with 'electric arcs.' Sensing it, Yan Chen instinctively stepped back. "This thing... not good." Yan Chen sensed that the energy in Su Xiao's hand wasn't electricity; it didn't carry that terrifying aura. It was an energy that could annihilate everything, extremely unfriendly.

"So, when your people are completely helpless, then come find me." Su Xiao resumed his game. As an essential force for their side, Su Xiao wouldn't let Yan Chen die. From Yan Chen's previous performance, Su Xiao could see the potential for cooperation, regardless of Yan Chen's inclination for sisterly figures, which didn't concern Su Xiao.

"Thank you." After speaking, Yan Chen headed toward the tent. "Professor Yang." Taffy made a funny face at Su Xiao and followed Yan Chen into the tent. What went unnoticed was that Yan Chen's steps toward the tent were somewhat 'decisive.'

Despite Taffy's cute appearance and occasional coquettishness, making her seem like a delicate girl who could be easily pushed around, once she started operating, she became a demon, displaying cruelty beyond imagination.

Once, when Yan Chen was severely injured, Taffy removed his heart and other vital organs, keeping him alive using life support while awaiting revival. Yan Chen could never forget a particular action by Taffy at that moment; when she removed his heart, she licked her lips. It wasn't out of fear but curiosity about how his heart tasted, whether it was better boiled or fried.

Taffy was the female version of Hannibal. There were no harmless, cute contractees in the Reincarnation Paradise; most of them were staff members. The OL-dressed beauty frequently entered and exited the tent. The first few times were uneventful, but in the subsequent visits, faint traces of blood were visible on her.

Seeing this scene, those team leaders revealed contemplative expressions. Pained cries emanated from the tent, and Su Xiao's fingers paused. The character in his game was crushed to death by a mechanism, and the screen turned black and white.

The tent's curtain swayed, and Taffy, dressed in dark green surgical attire, stepped out with a few blood spots on her fair face. With her usual expression, Taffy walked up to Su Xiao and bowed, saying, "Mr. Baiye, our leader wishes to discuss something with you."

"Okay." Su Xiao stood up. If Yan Chen sent someone to find him, it meant Taffy couldn't resolve his crystallization. As for Su Xiao's method, it was straightforward: use the Green-Steel Shadow energy to eradicate the energy causing Yan Chen's crystallization from within his body. Su Xiao entered the tent, and a metallic rust scent hit him, the smell of blood all too familiar to him.

Yan Chen lay shirtless on a makeshift bed, about 40 centimetres high, with adjustable functions. Three significant areas on Yan Chen's chest had already crystallized, forming pale red crystals interconnected with his muscle tissue. As for Yan Chen's left arm, it had utterly crystallized, resembling a piece of artistic red crystal.

"Taffy said I have about 10 hours left to live." Yan Chen's breathing was somewhat tricky. One of his lungs had crystallized, and this crystallized energy was like a relentless pestilence.

Su Xiao was about to check Yan Chen's condition when Yan Chen raised his hand, indicating that he would wait for a moment.

"Baiye, have you dealt with the Flying Arrow guy?" The Flying Arrow man, in Yan Chen's words, was Lan Jue. "Taken care of."

"That's good." Yan Chen pondered for a moment and continued, "Your combat prowess is strong. If I don't make it through this ordeal, only you can handle Xi. Those team leaders are not her match. As for Lucky Girl and Bug Lady, they can, at best, hold Xi back. Grizzly's power is decent, but he's too reckless."

As Yan Chen spoke, he took a few deep breaths. "Also, the reason I ended up in this state is that I killed Xi once."

"Killed Xi?" Su Xiao narrowed his eyes. The intelligence he previously received indicated that Xi could resurrect eight times, giving her nine lives. Now, Yan Chen has confirmed Xi's resurrection ability.

Chapter 839: Yanchen

"Twilight Palace, seventh floor. The painful cries of the wounded and the smell of blood permeated the seventh floor, where contractees wrapped in bandages sat scattered around.

"Boss, when's dinner? I'm starving to death." A contractee with a broken leg leaned against the wall, chewing on something. His jaw muscles were well developed, probably from constant chewing.

"It's almost ready. Wait a bit." A team leader responded impatiently, surrounded by a few other leaders engaged in discussion. "Boss, even if I die, at least let me die full."

The contractee with the broken leg murmured. After noticing his team leader's expression, he fell silent.

Several team leaders gathered together, led by Yan Chen. "The first wave of attacks was successfully repelled. Based on the current casualties, the Paradise of Reincarnation will only hold out against Heavenly Gate Paradise for up to ten days.

If we continue launching such assaults daily, at most five days, and our numbers will far exceed the Paradise of Reincarnation's, then we can consider counterattacking..." As Yan Chen spoke, he noticed several team leaders staring at his hand intently.

"What's wrong?"

"Yan Chen, your hand..." A team leader pointed at Yan Chen's hand, looking grim.

"My hand?" Yan Chen raised his crystallized left arm. He had previously taken medication to remove the abnormal condition, which had minimal effect, but there were signs of recovery. The crystallization wasn't an irreversible process.

Raising the crystallized left arm, Yan Chen noticed large cracks appearing on it, on the verge of shattering. For a close combat spear master like Yan Chen, losing a hand was a significant blow, significantly reducing his combat capability. An OL-dressed beauty beside Yan Chen immediately placed her hand over his crystallized arm.

"Boss, haven't you received a prompt?" A pink-coloured energy surged from the OL-dressed beauty's hand, adhering to Yan Chen's left arm like glue, sealing the cracked arm. "Taffy, come here." The OL-dressed beauty shouted, and soon, a slightly chubby-faced girl with a faint sweet smell approached.

She emitted a sense of innocence. "Not good." Taffy observed Yan Chen's left arm and realized the severity of the situation. She was Yan Chen's chief healer, skilled in healing-type skills and medical arts.

Most healing contractees relied on skills, but Taffy was different. In the real world, she was an intern doctor and integrated medical skills with healing-type skills upon entering the Reincarnation Paradise.

"Very serious?" Yan Chen suddenly recalled Xi's previous words, 'Perhaps this meeting will be our farewell.'

"Extremely, extremely serious. These crystals are gradually invading your body."

Taffy gestured behind her, and several of Yan Chen's trusted aides quickly erected a tent on the seventh floor with a red cross on top.

"Excuse me." Yan Chen walked toward the tent, and suddenly, someone spoke up. "If there's no other way, you can come to me." Playing games on a tablet within the Twilight Palace, Su Xiao's surroundings were filled with contractees. It was impossible to open treasure chests or engage in similar activities, leaving only games as a pastime.

Hearing Su Xiao's words, Yan Chen paused, and Taffy pouted beside him. "Brother Baiye, do you have a solution too?"

"I do, but it's not gentle. If you were a mage, there would be no way, but fortunately, you're not." Su Xiao's fingers danced rapidly. His puzzle-solving game was getting more complex. As for Yan Chen not being a mage, Su Xiao had that feeling since their initial meeting. Yan Chen's aura was different from that of a mage.

"What solution?" Yan Chen wasn't worried about Su Xiao's ill intentions. With the Reincarnation Paradise practically confined within the Twilight Palace, infighting at this time would be brainless.

"Electrotherapy." Su Xiao's fingertips sparked with 'electric arcs.' Sensing it, Yan Chen instinctively stepped back. "This thing... not good." Yan Chen sensed that the energy in Su Xiao's hand wasn't electricity; it didn't carry that terrifying aura. It was an energy that could annihilate everything, extremely unfriendly.

"So, when your people are completely helpless, then come find me." Su Xiao resumed his game. As an essential force for their side, Su Xiao wouldn't let Yan Chen die. From Yan Chen's previous performance, Su Xiao could see the potential for cooperation, regardless of Yan Chen's inclination for sisterly figures, which didn't concern Su Xiao.

"Thank you." After speaking, Yan Chen headed toward the tent. "Professor Yang." Taffy made a funny face at Su Xiao and followed Yan Chen into the tent. What went unnoticed was that Yan Chen's steps toward the tent were somewhat 'decisive.'

Despite Taffy's cute appearance and occasional coquettishness, making her seem like a delicate girl who could be easily pushed around, once she started operating, she became a demon, displaying cruelty beyond imagination.

Once, when Yan Chen was severely injured, Taffy removed his heart and other vital organs, keeping him alive using life support while awaiting revival. Yan Chen could never forget a particular action by Taffy at that moment; when she removed his heart, she licked her lips.

It wasn't out of fear but curiosity about how his heart tasted, whether it was better boiled or fried. Taffy was the female version of Hannibal. There were no harmless, cute contractees in the Reincarnation Paradise; most of them were staff members.

The OL-dressed beauty frequently entered and exited the tent. The first few times were uneventful, but in the subsequent visits, faint traces of blood were visible on her. Seeing this scene, those team leaders revealed contemplative expressions. Pained cries emanated from the tent, and Su Xiao's fingers paused.

The character in his game was crushed to death by a mechanism, and the screen turned black and white. The tent's curtain swayed, and Taffy, dressed in dark green surgical attire, stepped out with a few blood spots on her fair face. With her usual expression, Taffy walked up to Su Xiao and bowed, saying, "Mr. Baiye, our leader wishes to discuss something with you."

"Okay." Su Xiao stood up. If Yan Chen sent someone to find him, it meant Taffy couldn't resolve his crystallization. As for Su Xiao's method, it was straightforward: use the Green-Steel Shadow energy to eradicate the energy causing Yan Chen's crystallization from within his body.

Su Xiao entered the tent, and a metallic rust scent hit him, the smell of blood all too familiar to him. Yan Chen lay shirtless on a makeshift bed, about 40 centimetres high, with adjustable functions. Three significant areas on Yan Chen's chest had already crystallized, forming pale red crystals interconnected with his muscle tissue. As for Yan Chen's left arm, it had utterly crystallized, resembling a piece of artistic red crystal.

"Taffy said I have about 10 hours left to live." Yan Chen's breathing was somewhat tricky. One of his lungs had crystallized, and this crystallized energy was like a relentless pestilence.

Su Xiao was about to check Yan Chen's condition when Yan Chen raised his hand, indicating that he would wait for a moment.

"Baiye, have you dealt with the Flying Arrow guy?" The Flying Arrow man, in Yan Chen's words, was Lan Jue.

"Taken care of."

"That's good." Yan Chen pondered for a moment and continued, "Your combat prowess is strong. If I don't make it through this ordeal, only you can handle Xi. Those team leaders are not her match. As for Lucky Girl and Bug Lady, they can, at best, hold Xi back. Grizzly's power is decent, but he's too reckless." As Yan Chen spoke, he took a few deep breaths.

"Also, the reason I ended up in this state is that I killed Xi once."

"Killed Xi?" Su Xiao narrowed his eyes. The intelligence he previously received indicated that Xi could resurrect eight times, giving her nine lives. Now, Yan Chen has confirmed Xi's resurrection ability.

"Yan Chen took a few hurried breaths and said:

'Exactly, I killed her once. Remember, when fighting Xi, her usual crystallization isn't frightening. As long as the resistance is sufficient, one can avoid crystallization. The real terror lies in the moment of Xi's death. At that time, she will completely crystallize and explode. Under no circumstances should you come into contact with those splattering crystals, as the consequence will be like mine. This kind of crystallization doesn't require a judgment and will continue to worsen.'

Yan Chen, an intelligent man, aware that he might not survive this ordeal, shared the intelligence he obtained at a significant cost with Su Xiao, preparing him to deal with Xi.

Undoubtedly, this piece of intelligence was crucial. It not only confirmed Xi's resurrection ability for Su Xiao but also informed him of Xi's killing move in advance.

'The Gunner is indeed unreliable. Looks like I might get lucky today.' Though time was short for Yan Chen, he didn't exhibit fear or despair. Instead, he joked about his identity as a Gunner. His current gaze held a deep understanding of life and death, focused solely on one thing.

'My obsession with little sisters... perhaps it's not worth regretting my death.' Yan Chen laughed. He remembered his sister with a gaze that was both gentle and somewhat complex.

Strangely, despite Yan Chen's severe injuries, his sister hadn't appeared yet.

This was Yan Chen's command. If his sister saw him in this state, things would take a wrong turn, turning her into a killer in a matter of minutes.

"Beforehand, I must warn you, my method of treatment comes with a high chance of death." Though Yan Chen wasn't a mage, his body contained an abundance of fire elements.

"No problem. Either way, it's death. Even if there's a 1% chance, I must strive for it."

"Okay." Su Xiao took out a bottle of chewing gum, poured out a piece, and chewed it. [Stride Chewing Gum], white quality, effect: Chew it every minute to recover 15 points of mana; becomes ineffective after 5 minutes of chewing, one piece peruse.

The Green-Steel Shadow energy attached to Su Xiao's hand, and his fingers pointed at Yan Chen's completely crystallized arm. "Damn it!" Yan Chen suddenly sat up, but Su Xiao stepped on Yan Chen's chest, pinning him back onto the bed.

"Better... let me... just get it over with..." Before Yan Chen could finish speaking, his eyes rolled back, and he lost consciousness. The Green-Steel Shadow energy spread throughout Yan Chen's body, activating the fire elemental activity inside him.

This translucent energy was the culprit behind Yan Chen's crystallization. It was Xi's ability, Crystal Energy, converted from mana. One point of mana could be transformed into 10 points of crystal energy. Once released from the body, this crystal energy forms crystals. Xi's reservoir of crystal energy must be substantial.

Crystal energy was a non-reactive energy, whereas mana, chakra, psychic energy, etc., belonged to active energies. Each type had its benefits; active energy had a relatively broader range of use, while non-reactive energy was more stable, avoiding energy surges.

Xi's preference for this highly stable energy was related to her character. That woman despised uncontrollable things.

It wasn't challenging for the Green-Steel Shadow to devour crystal energy. What was challenging was how to prevent Yan Chen from dying due to the actual damage caused by the devouring energy of the Green-Steel Shadow. The real damage caused by the Green-Steel Shadow's energy devouring during the process was indescribably horrifying.

Fortunately, there was 'Yogurt,' the chief nurse of the Mingmen Adventure Group, ensuring Yan Chen wouldn't die instantly. However, preserving Yan Chen's life wasn't guaranteed. A few seconds after the Green-Steel Shadow's energy entered Yan Chen's body, Su Xiao noticed traces of the energy encroaching into Yan Chen's brain.

Su Xiao made every effort to control it. However, the excessive fire elements within Yan Chen's body made the Green-Steel Shadow's energy instinctively head towards Yan Chen's brain. A small portion of the Green-Steel Shadow's energy entered Yan Chen's brain, and his tightly closed eyes suddenly opened.

At that moment, an anomaly occurred. Large black patterns appeared on Yan Chen's face. Seeing these patterns, Su Xiao felt they resembled the sealing technique from the Naruto world. Yan Chen had sealed something within his mind. A corner of the seal shattered, and Yan Chen's eyes began to dim.

At this moment, within Yan Chen's consciousness, he sat in a pitch-black room. "Where is this..." Yan Chen's pupils contracted, and memories he had sealed away surged forth, numerous memories flooding back. A family of four in the living room, a teenage boy sitting on the sofa, using his phone to reply to messages, occasionally smiling foolishly.

The smile was like that of a first love; this was Yan Chen during his teenage years. A barefoot girl peeked out beside him, slightly younger, with a resemblance in their features, clearly siblings. When she noticed the girl peeking, Yan Chen quickly hid his phone, making the girl laugh as if she had caught something.

Yan Chen 'ferociously' glared at the girl, wordlessly warning her: 'Dare to tell Mom and Dad, and I'll beat you.' His younger sister, next to Yan Chen, got angry. She tilted her head arrogantly, utterly unaffected by her brother's threat, shouting, 'Mom, my brother is in puppy love.'

Yan Chen was scared out of his wits; his phone slipped into the crack of the sofa. The message on the phone read: 'Darling, my ugly little sister is peeking. Let's not chat for now.'

In the perception of most elder brothers, regardless of how their little sister actually looked, she was ugly in their eyes.

The memory stopped there, and the next scene unfolded. In the hospital, Yan Chen sat anxiously on a plastic chair in the corridor alongside his parents, but his sister was absent.

Soon, a doctor brought Yan Chen's sister out of the ward. This lively girl was behaving somewhat oddly, looking sideways at Yan Chen with a gaze that made him feel very unfamiliar.

The conclusion given by the psychiatrist was that Yan Chen's sister had a mild form of schizophrenia, producing a personality with antisocial and violent tendencies. They recommended her for observation at the hospital.

The memory jumped again. Blood, a blood-stained kitchen knife, a girl covered in blood with lifeless eyes, a middle-aged couple lying dead on the ground for quite some time, and a trembling young Yan Chen cowering in the corner.

A day later, a hungry and somewhat exhausted Yan Chen stood up. He looked at his sister covered in blood and then at his parents' corpses. He recalled his father's words before he died, 'Help your sister, don't hurt her. It's not her will.' The memory jumped again, landing in the reincarnation paradise, the gathering place for the Mingmen Adventure Group.

Yan Chen sat at the forefront, and those ten-plus members seemed somewhat fearful of him. Rumours had it that Yan Chen was a psychotic sister-obsessed individual who killed his family members and forcibly imprisoned his sister. However, Yan Chen did not incline sister-obsession.

His sister's personality disappeared when he killed his parents, leaving behind a schizophrenic, violent girl. Yan Chen didn't even want to see her. Talking about their obsession with his sister was far-fetched. Yet, Yan Chen knew, to some extent, that this mad girl was still his sister.

Tragic experiences can make people strong, such as Yan Chen. He did everything an elder brother could do, like earning money to support his sister and secretly dealing with the appearance of certain unknown bodies at home. These were all the experiences of 'sister-obsessed' Yan Chen. Reading this, one would realize that it was his sister who was truly disturbed.

In Yan Chen's consciousness, he sat on a chair, with darkness on his left and brightness on his right. He was caught between light and darkness. Gradually, the sealing technique recovered, and Yan Chen's memories faded away. This was an act of helplessness. With these memories, he often couldn't help but want to kill his crazy sister.

However, the idea of familial love told him not to do so. In the miracle land of the reincarnation paradise, perhaps there was a way to restore his sister's lost personality. This was one of Yan Chen's motivations. After completely sealing the unfortunate memories, Yan Chen's mind was filled with the memories he had constructed himself using 100,000 Paradise Coins.

Even though his real memories were sealed, there was an idea always telling him not to touch his sister, that it was very 'dangerous.' His sister had a flaw; she was missing a personality. She needed that restored so that he could have his complete sister.

At that time, he must remove the seal, which would reveal many things to him. Yan Chen, the sister-obsessed Flame Demon Knight. Whoever dared to provoke his sister would be challenging his sister-obsessed soul. At that point, Yan Chen would become a lunatic, and many contract holders knew this.

Chapter 840: It's Time to Treat the Enemy to a Big Pineapple

"A ray of light emerged. Yan Chen's eyes opened angrily, and he sat up with a gasp. "Where's my sister?" Hearing Yan Chen's first words upon waking up, the OL Beauty and Naikang beside him felt a bit helpless. This guy's obsession with his sister had sunk deep into his bones, and he was beyond redemption.

"Your sister is looking for 'situations' on the enemy's corpses." Naikang tried to put it delicately. "She's dissecting corpses again? This..." Yan Chen stopped speaking before the words reached his lips. Instinct told him that some things shouldn't be said.

Pains spread throughout Yan Chen's body, and there was a faint stench in the tent. "Bai Ye, your method of treating me is quite 'gentle.' I feel like I've wet myself." Yan Chen lifted the blood-stained blanket, and the stench became more noticeable. "However, thanks. I, Yan, will remember this favour."

Yan Chen moved his somewhat sore left arm. His left arm had regained its flesh and blood, but there were still traces of crystallization in some places. Su Xiao, smoking on the side, exhaled a puff of smoke. "It's nothing. You didn't die, which surprised me. Your will to survive is unexpectedly strong."

Su Xiao looked at Yan Chen. When the Green-Steel Shadow energy invaded his brain, it damaged a seal. Through the Green-Steel Shadow energy as a medium, he perceived some fragmented memory fragments. Based on these fragments, he inferred that Yan Chen might not have a specific fetish for little sisters.

Strangely, whether from rumours or Yan Chen's own words, he was a little sister enthusiast.

Su Xiao wasn't interested in digging up other people's secrets. Whether or not he was a little sister enthusiast was none of his concern. As long as Yan Chen didn't die now, it was a good thing. If Su Xiao were seriously injured and dying, Yan Chen wouldn't just stand by.

Su Xiao let out a sigh. He had consumed over 1,000 points of mana. He was currently recovering by chewing on Stride Chewing Gum. Chewing for 5 minutes restored 75 points of mana, and with ten pieces, his mana would be sufficient for combat use.

"It's been eight hours." Su Xiao suddenly spoke, confusing the OL Beauty and Naikang.

"I've been unconscious for eight hours?!" Yan Chen felt something wasn't right.

"Yes, eight hours."

"This is bad." Yan Chen looked at Su Xiao, who nodded. Both of them had the same thought.

Yan Chen would be eroded by crystal energy. As the instigator, Xi must be aware of this. Yan Chen was one of the leading combat powers of the Paradise of Reincarnation. When he was critically injured and dying, why didn't Xi bring people to attack? This was a perfect opportunity to break through the defence.

"From my understanding of Xi, she wouldn't let go of such an opportunity unless there's a better chance, like some opportunity to reverse the situation or simply wipe us out." Yan Chen's concern was not unreasonable.

"Two hours ago, I investigated inside the maze but didn't find any large siege machinery or abnormal fluctuations or auras. Everything seemed calm." Su Xiao himself couldn't enter the second area maze, but Bubuwang could. Yan Chen was about to speak when Su Xiao said, "Xi hasn't appeared."

Yan Chen nodded, and his opinion of Su Xiao rose several notches. At the same time, he realized that Su Xiao was the best collaborator at present, without a doubt. Although the leaders of those adventure teams had a workforce, they were too self-interested. In comparison to the bigger picture, they cared more about their own team's gains, especially now that they occupied the terrain.

"Are those leaders staying put?" Yan Chen asked the OL Beauty, who shook her head. "They're not in agreement. After you had an accident, they seemed inclined to let Natasha take over. But that woman is clever; she doesn't dare to stand out. After all, Xi's threat is there. Whoever takes over will have to deal with Xi. Apart from you and the person present here, it seems no one can handle Xi."

The OL Beauty smiled at Su Xiao, having noticed his bloody appearance and his combat capability on the battlefield earlier. Suddenly, Su Xiao stood up, his hand on the hilt of his waist knife.

"Something's coming."

"Huh?" The OL Beauty and Naikang needed clarification, and Yan Chen struggled to stand up. Boom!! A loud rumbling sound came, shaking the entire Twilight Palace for a moment.

"What's happening?"

"Not sure; seems like something hit the Twilight Palace."

"Let's go check." There were loud shouts outside the tent. Su Xiao and Yan Chen rushed out of the tent, with the drowsy Bubuwan following behind Su Xiao. When Su Xiao reached the exit of the palace, he found it blocked by sharp crystal spikes. Moreover, all three exits of the Twilight Palace were the same.

"This isn't good, isn't good, isn't good." Yan Chen, disregarding his injuries, transformed his staff into a magic spear, enchanted it with fire properties, and began to destroy the crystal blocking the door. Soon, the crystals at the door melted by Yan Chen turned into liquid, revealing a thick layer of crystals ahead.

If viewed from above, a river-like crystal could be seen, wrapping the three stone bridges and the Twilight Palace in a solid elliptical crystal sphere with a diameter of over a thousand meters. Within this crystal sphere were several hundred contract holders from the Paradise of Reincarnation, appearing like insects trapped in amber, assimilated into the crystals.

Nearly all the contract holders guarding the stone bridges were wiped out. This was the opportunity Xi had been waiting for. She drove the Paradise of Reincarnation out of the second area maze, and only when the contract holders of the Paradise of Reincarnation were densely positioned could this crystal sphere with a diameter of over a thousand meters exert maximum lethality.

This was a plan she had set up upon learning about the ancient ruins' terrain. After implementing this plan, regardless of success or failure, Xi's prestige would significantly decrease. The initial orc army's charge, the battles in the maze, and even the severe injury to Yan Chen were all parts of Xi's plan.

Only when Yan Chen was critically injured would the backbone of the Paradise of Reincarnation be missing, significantly reducing the risks of executing this plan. For this reason, Xi deliberately died once during her battle with Yan Chen.

Surviving number of the Paradise of Reincarnation: 255 people.

Surviving number of the Paradise of Tianqi: 783 people.

The numbers on both sides had tripled, and in the upcoming war, there would be a three-to-one situation. However, the Paradise of Reincarnation didn't know yet that they had killed those contract

holders who were relatively mentally stable. In the face of a significant enemy, there were still contract holders inside the Twilight Palace sleeping, and they were all a bunch of mentally unstable fellows.

Those with a sound mind, who were always on guard against attacks from the Paradise of Tianqi, were all dead. The current situation was that this group of mentally unstable contract holders had been forced into a desperate situation.

Inside the Twilight Palace, reading a book, Su Xiao held a Sun God Apollo in his hand. With the current number of contract holders from the Paradise of Reincarnation, defending the stone bridges was clearly impossible. They could only retreat to the second floor of the Twilight Palace, where there was only one upward passage, significantly reducing the defence difficulty.

Su Xiao felt that it was time to serve the enemy a 'pineapple.' Although the terrain of the second floor wasn't suitable for using Apollo, it was perfect for the fourth floor. "Yan Chen, I have a good plan. If the timing is right, there's a chance to wipe out the enemies entirely." Hearing Su Xiao's words, Yan Chen, with a dark expression, chuckled, his laughter a bit neurotic.

"Perfect. I have a plan, too. Let's see whose plan is more insane." A few minutes later, Yan Chen nodded thoughtfully. "Your plan is a bit crazier. Let's go with yours." The OL Beauty on the side was baffled. Wasn't the choice of whose plan to use supposed to consider which plan was more reasonable? Was it her worldview that was flawed?"