The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 36

Chapter 36: The Tomb Of The White Phantom

[Prerequisites for character class advancement to Cursed Apostle]:

Mission One: The assassins must first achieve Level 30 to be eligible for the class advancement quest. After accepting the quest, players will be able to obtain extra Blood Essence by killing any creature (not including players). Once the assassin accumulates 10,000 points of Blood Essence, the first level of the Naraka Realm will be activated. Then, the player has successfully achieved the character class advancement and become a Cursed Apostle.

Initially, all the assassins were excited to see such an easy mission.

Compared to the character class advancement to Rune Master, which required the players to hunt for various materials, the rather boring quest for the assassins was as easy as pie.

However, the assassins lost hope when they noticed the prerequisite skills listed below that.

Mission Two: Character class development.

Second Level of the Naraka Realm, the Avīci Demon's Nihility: Players have to find three different sources of the cursing power and hand it to the Class Advancement Instructor. The Class Advancement Instructor will proceed to engrave the three curses on the player's core in order to complete the second class development for the Avīci Demon.

Third Level of the Naraka Realm, the sacrifice of Prajñā's Ultimate Move: Prajñā sacrificed with no form and desire. Players have to grasp the prajñā's theory via death. (Extremely difficult level. Players are required to fathom the theory on their own.)

Fourth Level of the Naraka Realm, the quaking Mountains of the Void: Players have to collect fragments of the Mountain Spirit and submit it to the Class Advancement Instructor in order to fulfill the class development.

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All the assassins were stunned after they read the prerequisites for class development.

Assassin_Creed: "Why are the elaborations for the sacrifice of Prajñā, the most powerful skill, so brief and confusing? To grasp the meaning of prajñā's theory via

death? Does it mean that we have to repeatedly kill ourselves? Why is there a skill that requires the players' self-realization? Why can't the Skill Instructor guide us?"

The_Great_Assassin_Player replied to Assassin_Creed: "Perhaps, even the instructors don't know what to do (Joke)."

A_Mammoth: "I'm confused as well. The tutorial for the sacrifice of Prajñā is too succinct. This is my first time seeing an ability that requires players' apperception. Isn't this too difficult? I will just sit back and wait for tutorials after the experts complete the quest!"

Strike_Gold: 'As expected, the more powerful the skill, the more difficult it is. I can finally get peace of mind. However, I still think that the class advancement for the assassins is too easy. They only need to kill creatures. By now, none of us, the berserkers, have successfully undergone class advancement. That wrenches my heart!"

Ye_Xueer_is_the_cutest: "Brothers from the Association of the Guardian Angels, come and destroy the Ghost Mountains with me. After I've collected 10,000 points of Blood Essence, I aspire to become the first Cursed Apostle in this game!"

Ye_Xueer's_little_follower replied to Ye_Xueer_is_the_cutest: "Xue'er is definitely the strongest! I'm rooting for you!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Ye_Xueer's_little_follower: "Hi lickspittle, here we meet again. Wave~"

Ye_Xueer's_little_follower replied to Crayon_Shinchan: "Hmph!"

Crayon_Shinchan replied to Ye_Xueer's_little_follower: "Defeating you with a backhand slap!"

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Besides the Night Killer, the assassins were totally clueless about the remaining procedures to complete the character class development.

However, there was nothing Lu Wu could help them with. Even though the template of the Cursed Apostle was easy to design, it depended solely on the players to achieve their own class development.

This especially applied for the sacrifice of Prajñā. Even among the Cursed Clan, there were only a handful of them who could master the skill. Therefore, to mimic the realisticness, the players should practice and cultivate on their own in order to pick up these powerful skills.

The players could learn the skills of the Night Killer easily because Bei Li had set a shortcut for the class advancement within the artifact for the players to upgrade into the Cursed Apostle.

When the players successfully accumulated 10,000 points of Blood Essence and submitted it to the Class Advancement Instructor, the Blood Essence would be transmitted into the Artifact Channel. The artifact would then infuse these Blood Essence points into the player's core, helping the players to forge a new body.

Since the players were no longer required to take an oath to the Naraka Realm and provide sacrifices, the procedure was way easier than before.

Although the mission was extremely hard, it did not demotivate the assassin players at all. The players were seen everywhere, hunting for creatures.

Although the mages were let down by the introduction of the Cursed Apostle, they were looking forward to the launch of a class advancement that belonged exclusively to the mages.

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Lu Wu did not want to keep the mages waiting. With research led by the almighty Bei Li, a template for the mages had been finalized. It would be introduced into the game after Bei Li tested it.

Meanwhile, to enrich the in-game experience, Lu Wu's subsequent plan was to restore the Spirit Summoning Room.

The Spirit Summoning Room was where the King of Beiqi kept his defeated enemies and the spirits of his subordinates who died on the battlefield. There were many spirits of the courageous generals who used to fight alongside the King of Beiqi as he expanded his territory. More precisely, it was a memorial building.

There was a reason why Lu Wu wanted to restore the Spirit Summoning Room instead of the equipment depot.

As of now, the development of class advancement was approaching perfection. However, there was absolutely no progress for the hidden character classes.

According to Bei Li, there were spirits of talented warriors locked within the Spirit Summoning Room. Their inheritance could be extracted with the help of the artifact.

Their plan was to establish spontaneous class advancement quests in the game. Players would be able to achieve hidden character classes upon the completion of certain side quests.

After the update was launched, the players would be able to accomplish holistic development.

The hidden character class was extremely unique. It was independent from the three main characters. Hence, the introduction of the hidden character class would create new prospects to the game, making it more mysterious and intriguing.

Nevertheless, everything was still in progress.

Although the sum of Lu Wu's soul coins was increasing by leaps and bounds every day, the expenses were huge as well.

For instance, Lu Wu had set up two transport arrays at the border separating the Mansion of the Dead and Liuli District to make traveling easier for the players.

As this cost him a lot of soul coins, the balance of his soul coins was insufficient for the restoration of the Spirit Summoning Room, which was priced at 20,000 soul coins. Therefore, he had to save up again.

However, the Underworld was always full of surprises and unpredictable events could happen everywhere.

Right after Lu Wu and Bei Li decided on the future of the hidden character classes, Bei Li frowned as she placed her mind on a certain player in the Underworld.

Upon seeing that, Lu Wu shifted his vision to the Underworld as well.

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In Liuli District, they were surrounded by dead woods.

A berserker raised his chin to look at the blue sky. His face crumpled with despair.

He was not enjoying the view of the blue sky. In fact, he fell into this pit that was more than ten meters deep and was now surrounded by slippery rocks. There was nothing else he could do other than just stare at the sky.

He made a few attempts to climb up the rock wall, but to no avail. Not only was the wall utterly smooth, it was also extremely hard. Even his greatsword of Blue Class Quality could not make a slit on the wall. During his multiple attempts, he repeatedly fell down before he could go further than a meter.

He had the intention to escape by commiting suicide. However, he quickly lost hope. Every time he tried to injure himself, a green ray, originating from the wall, would immediately heal his wounds.

In despair, Sun Qi leaned on the wall wearily. He stared blankly and silently at the sky.

"The Tomb of the White Phantom? Wu, this man is in the Tomb of the White Phantom!"

Looking at the distressed berserker, Bei Li exclaimed in astonishment.

"What is this Tomb of the White Phantom?" Lu Wu asked curiously.

"There are unique Yin soul beasts inhabiting the Land of Beiqi. These creatures are rare and exquisite. They usually search for a secret place to keep their inheritance to pass it down to a living being from the Underworld who encounters it by fate. He is so lucky!"

Although Lu Wu failed to comprehend her words, he had a hunch that this was going to be an amazing thing.

Chapter 37: The Inheritance Of The White Phantom

At the brink of death, Sun Qi was suddenly reminded of something. He activated the Skill Menu and selected the live streaming option.

Then, he typed the title, "I'm in a tight situation, requesting backup now. This is urgent..."

After the livestream began, he silently waited for other players to save a weakling like him.

Moments later, many players began to appear in the live streaming channel.

"What is this place? The view here is amazing!"

"Simple. Perform a Gecko Wall Climb and you can get up easily. Also, a Wudang Ladders sounds good, too."

"Noob! Just do as I say, put your left foot on your right foot and levitate. You'll be out of there in no time."

Besides the players who were here for the drama, some of the players provided some supposedly helpful advice.

Sun Qi attempted every possible way, but to no avail.

An hour later...

Sun Qi was even more distressed as he laid down slowly and stared at the sky.

Lu Wu was anxious when he saw this. Therefore, he registered an account via the official website and posted a message in the livestream's comment section.

"Hey man, cut your finger and try to paint your blood on the rock wall!"

Sun Qi looked at Lu Wu's comment and quietly shifted his attention back to the sky once again.

Hopeless, he was too tired to try again.

Lu Wu was lost as well. It was clear that the player had given up and was no longer interested in trying out any groundless suggestions that were posted in the comment section.

Lu Wu had no choice but to activate his reward menu. He set aside five soul coins as a reward and posted another comment.

"Brother, just do as I say and these five soul coins are yours!"

Sun Qi appeared puzzled at the sight of the soul coins.

In Sun Qi's opinion, this player had a convoluted mind because he seemed to enjoy watching someone else's suffering.

However, for the five soul coins, Sun Qi sighed as he stood up. He held the greatsword and slit his wrist with it. He hurriedly pressed his wrist against the rock wall before the healing power of the wall was activated.

The following scene made the spectating players and Sun Qi's jaws drop.

Sun Qi's arm was magically stuck on the rock wall and he was unable to remove his arm. All the blood that came out of his wrist was absorbed by the rock wall.

That sight did not cause Sun Qi to panic. Instead, he was overjoyed. He thought to himself, I can finally be freed.

The other players were rather curious, "Brother, rest in peace. We'll see you in three hours!"

Sun Qi's face looked pale due to the massive blood loss. When he thought his life was about to end, a sudden wave of energy coursed through the rock wall.

Following a wail, a shadow of a white deer appeared from the rock wall. It danced around Sun Qi as fluorescent green specks of light filled the pit.

Everyone was stunned by the sight, clueless of the whole situation.

The white deer circled Sun Qi for a moment and Sun Qi suddenly realized that his health was completely restored.

When Sun Qi was about to close off himself, the white deer grunted softly. It then lowered its head and charged toward Sun Qi's core.

Bei Li, who was already prepared, activated the weapon and began to digitalize the inheritance.

With Sun Qi as the center, a flash of green light ran around the pit. A green cocoon slowly took shape and encased Sun Qi.

"Server Announcement: Congratulations on player Sun Qi's successful class advancement and unlocking of the hidden character class: White Phantom"

A server announcement popped up, causing a commotion in the game.

Soon enough, many people found Sun Qi's livestream channel. The number of viewers quickly exceeded fifty thousand. Before long, the viewer count had hit a hundred thousand.

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"I was snacking when this fellow advanced into a hidden character class. If you have just joined the livestream, you can watch the replay..."

"That's awesome! The first hidden character in the region. But, you're not as good as you seem?"

"Damn. What's a White Phantom? Help me out!"

The page was continuously refreshed as hundreds of new comments appeared every second.

At this moment, Sun Qi felt as though his mind was overwhelmed by new information. However, the information was intercepted by the artifact before it was translated into data and displayed before his eyes.

A moment later, the eyes of countless players shone with excitement as the green cocoon burst open and the pit was instantly filled with green thick fog.

The players who were watching the livestream held their breath as they anticipated the White Phantom's first appearance.

When the white fog slowly dispersed and Sun Qi finally reappeared, the other players put on an indecipherable expression.

A puppy with white, smooth fur appeared at the bottom of the pit.

In the comment section:

"Hahaha, I laughed so hard that I blew a snot bubble. Congratulations on transitioning into a dog!"

"I can't stand it anymore. I just had my operation done today. I'm out. This is too hilarious!"

"Hahaha! Congratulations! Your hidden character class is so cool!"

"I accidentally choked on water just now. Anyway, congratulations, too!"

"Are you trying to kill me with laughter and then ruin my credit score? What a shameless fellow! Hahaha!"

Sun Qi was also very confused. He was not aware of what had happened. He only knew that he seemed to have transitioned into a hidden character class, not knowing that he had actually become a dog.

He instinctively opened his Skill Menu.

Player: Sun Qi (Player Level: Level 21, 26%)

Character: White Phantom Spiritual Beast (First Form)

Introduction of the White Phantom Spiritual Beast: A type of unique and precious Yin soul beast that inhabits the Land of Beiqi. The noble blood of the Divine Beast flows within them. When their lives are coming to an end, they will search for a concealed place to pass on their inheritance to the beings who encounter it by fate.

Character Class Specialty: Every level upgrade will increase the player's attributes by 100%. At Levels 20/60/90/120, the player will receive an Inherited Skill. The second form will be unlocked upon reaching Level 150.

Note: The blood of the White Phantom has healing properties.

The players who were initially teasing Sun Qi were astonished after they read Sun Qi's Skill Menu.

"Damn it! I want to be a dog, too. I didn't foresee it to be the inheritance of the Divine Beast. I'm so jealous!"

"You're in luck! You upgrading one level is equal to us upgrading two levels. This is crazy! You're so lucky!"

"Apart from the adorable appearance, the attributes are amazing. I am absolutely jealous."

"Have you all realized that his blood has healing properties? The first medic of the region has appeared!"

"He's not a medic! He's basically the holy grail! I have prepared a washbasin to fill up his blood because the potions in the shop are way too expensive!"

"I have prepared a water tank. Are you ready to extract your blood?"

"Shut up, guys. Mister white puppy, do you want to be my pet? We will be the strongest in Beigi and eliminate all the traitors of the ghost clan! Isn't that wonderful?"

Sun Qi's Skill Menu had caused a hubbub among the players. All the players were enthusiastically discussing Sun Qi's transformation into a puppy.

Sun Qi's inheritance was deemed as pure luck. Even Lu Wu did not have the Class Advancement Menu of a White Phantom.

The other players were also keen to become a White Phantom. But they have to find the land where the White Phantom had left its inheritance behind.

Of course, the chances would be extremely slim.

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The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 38

Chapter 38: Sun Qi's Despair

Upon seeing the attributes menu, Sun Qi was overjoyed.

As a beginner with neither skills nor cash to spend in the game, his only means to upgrade his level and obtain equipment was to fight monsters. But now, everything had changed.

Owing to this hidden character class, he would definitely be able to turn into a pro. Perhaps, he could even become one of the top-notch players.

However, he was not quite accustomed to his new dog form yet. He glanced at his paws and began running in the pit experimentally.

As he slowly got used to the body, Sun Qi put on an ambitious expression as he braced himself for a mighty leap. Then, he started to bounce between the granite walls.

Buffed by his new form and powerful attributes, this time, Sun Qi managed to spring out of the pit with ease.

Taking a deep breath of the fresh air outside, Sun Qi was satisfied. He could already foresee himself on the path toward the glorious peak of his life.

In the comment section:

"What an agile doggy! So, his previous attributes were doubled as well after his class advancement? I wish I were him!"

"Buddy, are you interested in joining the Association of the Guardian Angels? We are in need of talent like you!"

"Hey buddy, the Battle Wolf Guild would surely be the most suitable for your development. Come! Join us on our quest to build this game's strongest guild!"

"Doggy, be my pet!"

Reading the players' comments, Sun Qi smiled. For the first time ever, he felt popular and important.

Just as he was falling into his fantasy, a net made of vines suddenly fell from a tree nearby. Sun Qi was caught within and before he realized what was going on, several heavy blows from a wooden stick struck him.

Sun Qi barked in agony.

"Brother, this doesn't look like a zombie wolf to me. It's just a white puppy," lifting a corner of the net, a girl with a wand said disappointedly.

"It's fine. Tie it up. We can use it as target practice. Zombie wolves are rather difficult to tame anyway. This little white puppy should be pretty easy to handle," said the disheveled assassin player.

"Hmm! Let me try it out!" the female player grabbed her wand and nodded.

In the midst of Sun Qi's utter confusion, he was dragged out of the net and tied to a dead tree.

In the comment section:

"Hahaha! Oh my god! Someone, I need help! Our almighty hidden character class is going to be tamed!"

"These two players are unbelievable! They managed to kidnap the first player with a hidden character class! My stomach hurts from laughing. Hahaha!"

"I'm just sitting here waiting to see him tamed. Use as much violence as possible. Don't go easy on him! I need this to relieve my jealousy."

"The first-ever White Phantom pet is going to be born. Let's join to watch the fun!"

When Sun Qi saw the female player took her cane out excitedly, his mouth went agape and he began to wail.

"Hey, hey, hey! I'm a player. A player!"

Due to his transformation, his wails simply sounded like barks to the female player.

"Look, sister. All wild beasts carry their vicious instincts. Don't underestimate it for its size. You have to cane it with all you've got to make it fearful of you. This is the first step of beast taming, like what the beast taming master taught me."

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"Got it, brother!" the female player replied with a firm nod.

Upon listening to that, the audience burst out laughing. Even Lu Wu and Bei Li, who were watching the scene, were unable to bite back their laughter.

"Smack!"

Sun Qi grit his teeth as the blows rained upon him.

"Smack, smack, smack!"

A couple of consecutive blows later, Sun Qi was left whimpering. He was filled with dread when he saw a shred of excitement flash through the female player's eyes as she continued her brutal caning.

If he could, he would have hidden his face. Then, he recalled that he was still in the midst of a livestream. He was so embarrassed that he would rather die.

He had missed the best chance to escape earlier. Now that he had been tightly restrained, Sun Qi was clueless about what he should do next. He even began to worry whether the two players would decide to simply kill him off in the end, the assassin player especially.

Sun Qi had heard that all assassin players had been going mad over Blood Essence points lately, to the point that they would kill all the plants for it if they could.

Then, Sun Qi suddenly recalled that he probably would have received an Inherited Skill, considering he had achieved Level 20.

Immediately, he activated his Skill Menu.

[Sweet Rain Dew (Inherited Skill)]: Players are able to summon a healing rain within a certain range. This will drain 2 percent of the player's max health per second and trigger a huge range of area of effect healing.

Seeing that it was actually not a battle skill, Sun Qi glanced at the female player, who was standing before him, in despair before a tear rolled down his face.

"Brother, the white puppy is crying!"

Noticing that, the assassin approached Sun Qi and said, "Old dog, why are you crying? You ought to be ashamed to cry at this old age."

In the comment section:

"I'm choked with laughter! He's right! Why is an old dog like him crying? That's so shameful!"

"I'm keeping this as a meme, hahaha! I swear I'm going to die from laughter as I watch this livestream channel."

"Didn't you all notice the Inherited Skill? It's insane! I'm sure whoever recruits this puppy to join their guild will get a huge leap in their ability for wilderness player killing!"

"I noticed. This is the first time I've seen a healing skill, not to mention an area of effect one! The puppy is probably going to be a popular target for recruitment from now on."

Meanwhile, facing the two torturers, Sun Qi turned his face away before he let out a few sobs. He had given up on resisting. He turned his pain reception down to zero so that he could at least be spared from the pain.

Indeed, the two players carried out a whole series of inhumane taming trials on him that were nothing short of his expectations.

Eventually, the mistaken taming process came to an end when other players, after laughing their heads off, finally decided to take pity on the white puppy, who was already on the verge of submission, and rescue him.

Sun Qi's experience was a laughingstock for the players, but many also came to realize something, too.

It was true that there were inheritances in the game, and heirs of these inheritances would receive a powerful hidden character class.

This sparked the flame in many players, as they began to search all over the map for pit holes and tunnels in hopes of receiving an inheritance for a hidden character class.

It led to many weird occurrences in the game — some obsessive players went to the extent of jumping into every pit and hole they came across, creating many hilarious incidents.

Others went even further — they specifically jumped off cliffs in the delusion that there were some ultimate inheritances beneath the cliff.

The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 39

Chapter 39: Cooperative Advertising

At the headquarters of the Black Sea Technology Corporation in Dragon Metropolis.

At this moment, a crowd was gathered in the meeting room. All of them wore a solemn expression on their faces.

"Sadly, we were a step behind. The majority of the influential game developers within the country have already signed agreements with the Jie De Corporation to mutually promote each other. Let's discuss about our plan to manage this," Wu Li spoke from the main seat after he swept his gaze across the crowd.

The higher-ups of the Black Sea Technology Corporation never expected that the Jie De Corporation would make their move so quickly.

Seemingly, during their press conference, the Jie De Corporation had already sent their representatives to different cities in the Dragon Nation to seize contracts with most of the game developers. Thinking that the years they had spent for the research and preparation might go up in smoke due to the turn of events, everyone of the Black Sea Technology Corporation was bitterly disappointed.

"Chief Wu, according to our intelligence, there is still one game developer of considerable significance that has not sealed the deal with the Jie De Corporation yet. Apparently, they rejected Jie De's offer."

"Only one?" Wu Li heaved a sigh of disappointment.

"It's better than none. Send someone over to negotiate with them. We'll try our best to fulfill their demands, and hopefully, we can work with them."

Although he felt inwardly helpless, Wu Li had no intention of forgoing this opportunity.

Soon after the meeting had ended, the Black Sea Corporation managed to connect with Lu Wu through Platform173.

Originally, the staff in charge intended to hold a physical meeting, but Lu Wu rejected and responded with only one question.

"Will I be charged for the collaboration?"

Although the person in charge was rather flustered by Lu Wu's question, he replied with a firm answer.

"The cooperative advertising project is to create a win-win situation. You will certainly not be charged. At the same time, your company's game will be pre-installed in our gaming console, meaning that once the gamers purchase our consoles, even without downloading, your game will automatically appear in the list."

After he listened to the proposal, Lu Wu immediately agreed to the deal. No one foresaw that the dialogue would go on so smoothly – even the person in charge at the Black Sea Technology Corporation was a little bewildered.

In the phone call, Lu Wu also promised the representative that they would promote the Black Sea Technology Corporation's gaming consoles in the game after its official release.

The next day, Lu Wu received the contract for the cooperative advertising project mailed by the Black Sea Technology Corporation.

Lu Wu carefully read through the contract. After confirming that all the details were correct, he signed it and kept a copy for himself. Upon returning the signed copy to the Black Sea Technology Corporation, the alliance between the two parties was officially established.

The news of Lu Wu's collaboration with the Black Sea Technology Corporation soon reached Orisha, Jie De Corporation's representative.

This left her in shock. As the person in charge of the cooperative advertising project, she did not expect to see the man who rejected her offer to cooperate with the Black Sea Corporation.

She quickly relayed the news to the headquarters back in A Nation.

Jie De Technology Corporation was never merciful to its competitors. They immediately decided to block Battle Online on all their consoles.

Then, Battle Online would not be available on any console that was sold by the Jie De Technology Corporation.

In their opinion, there were still a vast choice of games available for their consoles. Gamers would surely weigh the pros and cons, and opt for the better devices.

In the meantime, at the Mansion of the Dead in the underworld.

"Your majesty, your majesty!" Du Yan bowed with respect to a silhouette that was standing not far away.

"Why did you return? Have I not ordered you to stay beside Cha Na?" Lu Wu, appearing as the King of Bei Qi, questioned softly.

"I was forced to return. Cha Na has discovered my treachery. I'll certainly be killed if I remain by his side!"

"Oh? Why is that so?" Lu Wu asked, appearing surprised.

"When I went back to Cha Na, the Ghost General, upon Your Majesty's orders. I first lied to him about the cause of Third Ghost's death using the Tree Demon's branches. Then, I was told to visit the Sea King to respond to the matter of the offerings. However, I informed the Sea King that Cha Na, the Ghost General, had refused to deliver his request."

"This infuriated the Sea King. He commanded the sea creatures to launch a blitz. That was when I became certain that I would be exposed soon. So, I had to leave!"

Hearing this, Lu Wu was immediately reminded about the battle by the sea that was live streamed by the player the other day. He had not expected Du Yan to be the cause behind the violent exchange.

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"By the way, I brought this with me before I left!"

Du Yan took something out of his black robes as he spoke, only to reveal a pitch-black orb that was sitting on his palm.

Lu Wu was puzzled. He waved his hand and a cloud of condensed Yin energy brought the black orb before him.

He activated the analyzing function of the artifact.

[Yin Soul Pearl]: 230,119 Yin souls

Item details: This item is able to store Yin souls.

"I was previously in charge of the storage of Yin souls in Liuli district. Therefore, I took all the Yin souls that belonged to Cha Na with me before I left."

He is an utter traitor. He did not forget to give his former owner a final stab in the back before he escaped! However, I appreciate a treacherous old chap like him.

Lu Wu wore a grin as he said, "Du Yan, you did a great job!"

He waved his hand. A cloud of soul power was released from his sleeves and rushed into Du Yan's body.

"Boom!"

The soul power acted like a flammable liquid, causing the soul flame within Du Yan's skull to grow explosively. The color of his head slowly morphed from green to crimson.

Simultaneously, it could be clearly seen that Du Yan's pitch black skeletal structure began to thicken, while flecks of glowing emerald appeared on it.

"This..." Du Yan was shocked.

Having lived for several thousand years, this was his first time witnessing a skill that was able to control soul power directly. This doubled his ability in an instant.

Turning back to look at Lu Wu, Du Yan knelt on the ground and presented a kowtow. "Thanks to your majesty for your gracious reward!"

Lu Wu nodded. It was not a difficult feat for him to raise Du Yan abilities.

This was different from improving a player's ability.

The growth of a player's ability needed to be accumulated in a step-by-step manner, following the correct order. It was similar to the process of digging a drain and turning it to a pond, which would ultimately grow into a lake. It required orderly advancement. On the contrary, presences like Du Yan, who had been cultivating for thousands of years, already possessed a solid foundation. All Lu Wu needed to do for Du Yan was to add water to the pond.

Even so, the technique he had revealed appeared to be a miracle in the eyes of Du Yan.

This advancement gave Du Yan a deeper understanding of Lu Wu's mysteries. He even felt a tinge of relief, thinking that his betrayal was one of the best decisions he had ever made.

However, Lu Wu had not intended for Du Yan to stay at the Mansion of the Dead despite his return. Lu Wu gave Du Yan an order.

"Du Yan, I have a mission for you."

"Pray tell, your majesty. I shall give it my all," Du Yan spoke dutifully.

"Seek refuge from the Rock Ghost King!"

"This..." Du Yan was dumbfounded.

"Your majesty wishes for me to sour the relationship between the Rock Ghost King and Cha Na, the Ghost General?" Du Yan asked unconfidently after a brief moment of thought.

"That is one of the objectives, but I will handle Cha Na. The main purpose is for you to investigate the Rock Ghost King's current status and report it to me."

"But, will the Rock Ghost King believe me?" Du Yan was a little hesitant.

"Bring this along!" with a wave of his hand, Lu Wu removed 150,000 Yin souls from the Yin Soul Pearl using his artifact. He gave the pearl with the remaining 80,000 Yin souls to Du Yan.

Upon receiving the Yin Soul Pearl, Du Yan replied with a firm nod, "I shall not disappoint your majesty's expectations!"

Then, he transformed into a black shadow, left the Mansion of the Dead, and traveled toward the North Rocks.

The Boss Behind The Game Chapter 40

Chapter 40: Building An Instance Dungeon

After Du Yan's departure, Lu Wu's consciousness left the underworld, too.

Originally, Lu Wu planned to give all the Yin souls to Du Yan so that Du Yan could use it as a bargaining chip when he took shelter under the Rock Ghost King.

After all, to Lu Wu, his own soul power was clearly more useful than the Yin souls.

However, his idea was denied by Bei Li, forcing him to extract and store 150,000 of Yin souls in his battle artifact.

"Little Li, how are these Yin souls useful?" Lu Wu asked Bei Li once his consciousness returned to the room.

"They are definitely useful. You must know that others do not possess artifacts that have the ability to manipulate soul power like we do. They can only rely on Yin souls to forge weapons and equipment. Only the making of high-level equipment requires a rare soul stone. Besides, a Yin soul has a very important use — to build a two-way passage."

"Can we not do that with soul power alone?" Lu Wu was astounded.

"No, that is different. Portals can be built with soul power alone. However, it is different for the two-way passage. The construction of the two-way passage requires offerings. In this instance, a Yin soul acts as the contribution. That makes the fundamental difference between the soul power and Yin soul."

Lu Wu rolled his eyes, "You should be more specific. I literally know nothing about the underworld."

Bei Li smiled and nodded. "Have we not been brainstorming on the construction of the Instance Dungeon? These Yin souls will be extremely helpful. That is why I specifically asked you to keep 150,000 Yin souls. It is the exact amount needed as offerings to reach the Naraka Realm."

Finally, Lu Wu understood. He exclaimed in a pleasantly surprised tone, "Does it mean that we can introduce the dungeon to the public now?"

Bei Li nodded, "Yes, I've chosen the Naraka Realm, a forbidden zone in Naraka where demons are constantly spawned. It is an ideal ground for players to gain experience and upgrade their level in the game, especially for the assassins as many of the materials required for their class advancement can be found there."

"More importantly, there are eighteen levels in the Naraka Realm. The further you go, the more powerful the demons will be. So it will be especially challenging for growing players."

"How long does it take to build the two-way passage?" Lu Wu thought for a moment before he asked.

"It'll take approximately an hour."

Lu Wu nodded before he instantly released a server announcement with the help of the Battle Artifact.

"Server Announcement: Our server will undergo maintenance in ten minutes. This will be followed by the launch of the Instance Dungeon. Stay tuned!"

The players burst into an uproar upon the announcement.

Lu Wu only made this decision after careful consideration. It would be too conspicuous to form an array right outside the Mansion of the Dead, as he had to be physically present. Being the mastermind behind the curtain, it would be better for him to stay hidden.

After ten minutes of waiting, Lu Wu took a glimpse at the viewer count and realized there were some 80,000 players who were still online.

Therefore, he forcibly kicked out the players using the artifact's administrative authority.

With nowhere else to go, the players began to gather at the game's forum instead.

Crayon_Shinchan: "Damn. I almost killed the metal zombie. I have spent a whole twenty minutes fighting it! Will I get compensation for that?"

Peppa_Boar: "Same here. I was in the midst of battling the netherworld creatures with my team. We were just about to defeat it when we were kicked out mercilessly. I demand compensation! I am not asking for much, a purple weapon will be just enough."

A_Mammoth: "Did you guys not notice the highlight of the announcement? The Instance Dungeon will be launched!"

Invincible_Loneliness: "I'm on my daily quest to collect soul coins and grow cash. Anyone selling soul coins for good? Add me now!" Come and read on our website wuxia worldsite. Thanks

Assassin_Creed: "The features in this game are amazing and I'm looking forward to the Instance Dungeon. I'm trying to form a team to explore the Instance Dungeon together. Let's grow and advance together~"

Xueli_The_Strongest: "I hope the drop rate of this Instance Dungeon will be higher... I really want to change my equipment, but my soul coins run out too quickly. Poor me~"

From the discussions, it was evident that the players' expectations for the Instance Dungeon were rather high. Of course, Lu Wu would not let them down. He brought Bei Li along as he returned to the underworld.

The usually crowded Mansion of the Dead was rather deserted after the maintenance began. However, this was exactly what Lu Wu hoped for.

They took a stroll around the Mansion of the Dead and eventually stopped at a spot that was neither far nor close to the mansion before they began the construction of the altar.

When it came to technical tasks like these, Lu Wu could only remain an onlooker.

Bei Li waved her hand and extracted all the Yin souls from the battle artifact. All of a sudden, they were surrounded by many green jellyfish-like objects that were floating in the air.

Then, Bei Li shifted her attention to the Yin energy. With the Yin energy, she inscribed an enormous circle on the ground before she continuously filled the circle with twisted and indecipherable patterns.

Ten minutes later, Bei Li, with an earnest expression, waved her hand once again, prompting the Yin energy in the air to surge toward the array on the ground, materializing the formation on the ground as it shimmered with a dark glow.

"Hum... hum..."

As the patterns within the array took its form, the ground gently quaked. The lines on the floor began to glow in crimson.

"The offerings!" upon Bei Li's command, the suspended Yin souls rushed toward the core of the array.

"Sob… sob…"

An ancient cry of sorrow originated from the array resounded through the atmosphere. The sound resembled an old man who was bidding farewell to the world in the final moments of his life.

Then, a shocking scene appeared before Lu Wu. A pair of crimson red arms, dripping with molten lava, reached out from the array and grabbed the air viciously. Within a blink of an eye, the cloud of Yin souls were completely removed.

Looking at that pair of arms, Bei Li's expression remained solemn. She uttered a few sentences in a language unheard before by Lu Wu.

The pair of lava-drenched arms gently oscillated as they listened to her. A weathered sigh arose from the array. The gigantic arms slowly sunk into the ground until it was no longer visible.

The array Bei Li inscribed had become a crimson red circular pit with a bright glow churning within. Its bottom was unfathomable.

"It's done!" Bei Li smiled happily as she looked at Lu Wu, anticipating his compliment.

Lu Wu reached out to ruffled her hair, "What were those arms earlier? Also, what did you say to him?"

Bei Li pouted, "You should not address him as 'arms'... he is one of the oldest divine beings here in the underworld. Even after his death, he is still a supreme existence. I was communicating with the residues of his consciousness in an ancient sacrificial language earlier. I asked for a passage to the Naraka Realm in exchange for 150,000 Yin souls."

"Did he agree?"

"Of course! There is no other way this tunnel can be built successfully otherwise. For he was, and remains, the only god in charge of the forbidden zone, the Naraka Realm."

Lu Wu nodded. "So we have to do this for every new Instance Dungeon we build?"

"Yes. All forbidden zones contain the residue of an ancient god's consciousness. It is the existence of these prehistoric gods that labels these areas as the forbidden zones. Therefore, we will require the gods' permission before we can create a connection that leads to a forbidden zone. You have to find a way to encourage the players to plunder more Yin souls and contribute to us in order to establish more Instance Dungeons!"