

Apocalypse 1131

Chapter 1131: Changing order

Five Ring Money agreed to that price.

Of course, they would find people who understood Cloud Peak delicacies' function to see if they were as magical as Ye Zhongming said.

Ye Zhongming compromised on things such as payment time and details to calm these deacons down.

He was confident in the Cloud Peak delicacy and didn't worry much about these details.

Although he said there was no bargaining, if it couldn't tempt the three deacons, it was no different from him bragging.

They were happy to agree to that price because Cloud Peak delicacy broke some fixed thoughts.

That thing was called order.

Since the start of the apocalypse, the wheel has formed an order on Earth. Everything follows the wheel, and its rules replace all other rules.

From potions, scrolls, bloodlines, and skills to various equipment and battle beasts and then mutated lifeforms and beasts.

Everything was arranged for the wheels. Their familiar world was gone, and no one could change anything. All humans could do was follow the requirements of the wheel to evolve, learn, create, and live.

Slowly, everyone was used to such changes and rules.

However, the three deacons noticed some differences from what Ye Zhongming said and from their body's changes.

This thing changed some recipes.

Like gene lifeform and crystal weapons, it changed the rules of the wheel!

One or two types might be luck, and maybe some of Earth's smartest people saw loopholes around the wheel.

But what about the third item? Would that be the same? Did Cloud Peak grasp some secret? A secret that could break the chains of the wheel?

This thought flashed in their hearts, but they didn't confirm anything. But with this thought, the few of them were willing to spend money to invest and gamble. Anyway, they wouldn't lose much.

Thus, the discussion on the price was so simple.

Finally, both sides talked about the control of Bright Water World. Ye Zhongming was firm and used his information about this place to agree with the three deacons.

In their agreement, Five Ring Money would help Ye Zhongming go where he wanted to. They would even pay a huge sum to purchase his completion rate and promise.

The promise was that Ye Zhongming wouldn't spoil Five Ring Money's operation, and when needed, he would help them solve a few tough dungeons.

"Mr Ye, why do I feel we are signing an unequal agreement."

Both sides agreed and formed a genuine connection; they were even closer when they talked. Deacon Ouyang shook his head while joking as Ye Zhongming walked out.

Ye Zhongming smiled and didn't explain anything. He said, "In the future, you will know that many things have different meanings. If you look back, I might be the one losing out."

Everyone laughed and walked out. They settled on the time to head to the dungeon before splitting up.

Looking at the backs of Ye Zhongming's group, the smile on the faces of the three deacons disappeared. Deacon Ouyang and Deacon Water looked toward Deacon Tong.

This person nodded solemnly.

“This Cloud Peak boss knows Bright Water World more than we think. I signaled to all of you because I knew the things he said. But if he wanted to, he could cause huge problems for us. Rather than that, why not work with him? Although we will have some losses, it isn't much compared to losing control of this place.”

After explaining this, Deacon Tong continued, “Logically speaking, outsiders shouldn't know so much. If we didn't leak it, this means many things.”

He pointed at the sky and looked tired, “If we don't need to fight with this faction, then let's not. Things in the future are too complicated, and no one knows.”

The other two deacons nodded and didn't say anything else.

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“Boss, we might get more if we do it ourselves.”

Zhao Xiangxue accompanied Ye Zhongming. She didn't understand why Ye Zhongming gave up on some dungeons. She felt like the boss could obtain many benefits.

Ye Zhongming looked ahead and heard the music from a bar. Although it was far away, he could still hear the strong tempo.

Many people were releasing stress there.

“It isn’t so simple. It looks like we are giving up on some stuff now, but what did we give up? We think we can get these things but have not obtained them. Even if we don’t give up, we might not get them. Moreover, think about it. The higher we go, the more dangerous the dungeons will be, and the more we will clash with Five Ring Money. Before we even trade with them, our relationship will crack. That isn’t good. We do have to earn money from them.”

Gao Yi and Zhao Xiangxue nodded. They understood that theory but weren’t willing to give things up.

“Also, we don’t have many people. We are under huge pressure in the Secret Realm, so we must conserve some strength. Who knows how many losses we will suffer if we take down all those resource points? Potions, puppets, and equipment are all cost. It is worth it to get some money to support us there.”

Ye Zhongming stopped explaining. He knew that he had another goal: to reveal some information to see what would happen in the future. The few deacons and him all looked into the sky.

After discussing all that, Ye Zhongming completed most of his goals here. Since there was some time until the dungeons opened, he found Li Qiang. He had already ‘bought’ him from Five Ring Money.

“Boss Ye, I recalled something else.”

“What?”

“I saw a lifeform on that ship!”

Chapter 1132: Slave race

Li Qiang thought there would be two ways for him to get free. One was that Ye Zhongming purchased him from Five Ring Money. That was peaceful and the method he hoped for.

The other was that Ye Zhongming would bring him away when he left. This was an escape. It was risky, and it wasn't what he hoped. He had spent time here and knew what organization Five Ring Money was.

But he knew purchasing such a special evolved like him would cost a lot. He wasn't afraid Ye Zhongming didn't have the money. After all, he had already invested in him. But he didn't want to give the boss the impression that he was a waste of money.

But he was given away!

This shocked Li Qiang.

Ye Zhongming was so strong that Five Ring Money was willing to give him people.

Shock filled his heart, making him more curious about Cloud Peak.

“What lifeform?”

Ye Zhongming was interested in what Li Qiang said. He knew about the slave race and knew there were more life forms above. But he didn't understand which was the slave race that he heard from the Resistance Zone and what the other lifeform was called.

“A warrior.”

Li Qiang was certain. He had evolved again, so his locked memory was slightly unlocked, which was why he recalled the lifeform.

“I can only remember its outer appearance. I am not sure when I saw it, but I am sure it is very powerful. They were used to fight.”

Ye Zhongming told him to describe what that lifeform was like.

“Very tall, no...” He frowned as if doing that could let him remember.

“There were... Two types? Or three? They looked similar, but their height difference was huge. The biggest was around five meters, and the small was about our height.”

“There is an obvious size difference?”

Ye Zhongming wondered if their heights were randomly different or if they represented their strength like the demon monsters.

“This...” He thought about it. There shouldn’t be any strict benchmarks, but some rules remain. They are either between 4 and 5 meters, then 3.5, then around our height.”

“Right!”

Li Qiang slapped his head, “The very tall and short lifeforms have very obvious gender marks. The 4-5 meters one should be male. They are very muscular, and those our height are females.”

“How are you so sure?” Zhao Xiangxue asked.

Ye Zhongming didn’t hide such stuff from his two subordinates and told them about Li Qiang’s identity. But Ye Zhongming didn’t introduce Gao Yi and Zhao Xiangxue to him. After all, he didn’t think about what to do with him, whether to let him enter Cloud Peak or Chameleon.

Li Qiang looked at the beautiful lady and knew that she was someone that Ye Zhongming trusted. He replied, “Logically speaking, those lifeforms aren’t human, so I shouldn’t be so sure. But... They didn’t wear much. The guys only wore special armor on their shoulders, elbows, knees, and limbs. The females had one more chest guard and wore some jewelry on their heads and wrists.”

“They looked similar to humans, but there were some differences. Their guys were very tan and pure black. The females were very white, pure white. Their eyes were beautiful, and there were three pupils. Their hair wasn’t white, black, or blond. The guys had blue hair; females were red.”

“And? What about those lifeforms in between the two extremes?”

Ye Zhongming added. These lifeforms seemed similar to humans. Were they from the same source? If not, the universe was so vast that many life forms should have existed. Why did they look so similar to humans?

“I am not sure of the gender of those three-meter tall ones. There were a few of them, and my memory is blurry. The only thing was that they were ferocious when they fought. Patterns would appear on their bodies, and the colors of those patterns would be different. I don’t know what they represent, but they were beautiful. Also, they can transform, but I forgot what they could transform into.”

Li Qiang said everything he could recall. He didn’t know if they would help Ye Zhongming, but he felt more relaxed. He knew he wasn’t strong enough to unlock the mysteries of these lifeforms and the secrets of those alien ships. Then, he shall leave it to someone who might. That reduced the pressure on him.

Ye Zhongming nodded. Although humans were ‘modified’ by the wheel and different from traditional humans, most still looked the same.

“These are helpful; at least we have some understanding of those fellows. If you recall anything, tell me about it anytime.”

Li Qiang nodded. He wouldn't say such things casually. You had to choose who to tell your secrets to. Ye Zhongming was a good choice.

"What should we do next?" Li Qiang's injuries healed, and he had just evolved. He wanted to perform.

"Go to a few dungeons to get some things." Ye Zhongming pinched his chin. He knew that he had some information that Deacon Tong didn't. If not, with Five Ring Money's strength, they wouldn't give it to him so easily.

The information he revealed to them was a probe.

The four of them rested before heading out to a resource point. Although the advanced region dungeons were dangerous, because of the information he knew before, they were also very strong and could complete their goals.

Some resource points were claimed as some time had already passed. The other factions were strong, and some people were expected to have finished some resource points. If he wanted the reward, he had to purchase them from others. He could give this task to those who specifically did such work.

Two places were mostly finished. Ye Zhongming rushed over. He would have to conflict with others if he wanted to join in. But without the space exception and with fewer people than them, it was easy for others to block him. So he could only give up on the rewards from these two places. Fortunately, the Royal Guild helped, and he bought one from the small faction. The other did not want to give it up, and Five Ring Money couldn't force them. Ye Zhongming gave up as, fortunately, it wasn't a crucial reward.

He spread the message that he wanted to purchase some stuff and completed all he wanted in Bright Water World. All that was left was to help Five Ring Money. Who knew that the first place was a problematic one?

Chapter 1133: Job Clash

The cold wind blew and swept Hundred Hole Swamp, covering this dungeon that did not truly exist in a layer of cold.

But the cold wind didn't scatter the mist. The mist connected heaven and Earth; it was as if there were no sky, but also, like everything was the sky.

Numerous holes popped up around the swamp, lined up in an orderly manner, and looked like giant mouths that swallowed people.

"Can you even do it? We have been stuck here for dozens of hours and failed repeatedly. Will we still be here when Bright Water World closes?"

A guy frowned and was unhappy with a red-haired woman. He scolded her.

The woman had a blanket over her and was slightly shaking. Her red hair had a layer of white frost and dripped water. It was the effect of the ice melting.

Beside this red-haired woman was another woman with a good figure. When she heard that guy talk like that, she retorted, "Zhang Zhongzhen, you do know how many times Gan Lan has gone, and she is risking her life each time. It isn't because she didn't try, even if she didn't succeed. It is because it is too tough."

The woman got angrier and continued, "If you think she can't do it, then send someone yourself or head down alone. What is the point in blaming her? We are noobs, and the resistance zone is strong; how about that?"

The two women were Gan Lan and Mei Na, whom Ye Zhongming met in Linhai Ghost City. They knew each other before the apocalypse and were both trapped in Linhai. They looked past their differences and reconciled to build a battle squad named after the two of them-- Nalan.

Ye Zhongming helped them with potions, and the two of them were the bosses of the battle squad, so their foundations were good. After the new squad was built, things progressed smoothly.

Because of their good foundations, they were even in the overall strength rankings. Although they were ranked at the back, it was decent.

But Nalan's strength was that their strength was evenly spread, and their weakness was that their solo combat strength didn't stand out.

They received a special invitation to the Bright Water Feast.

This invitation was prepared for a specific dungeon. To use the person's special features to conquer the resource point. Five Ring Money analyzed all the resource points and devised an accurate solution.

Nalan was invited because of Ganlan's Rhythm Observation, which was very suitable for the swamp. Thus, they received really good treatment. When Ye Zhongming sat on the fishing boat to get to Bright Water World, they were the ones on the luxurious yacht.

But things weren't as simple as they thought after entering the swamp. There were some issues with Gan Lan's job.

Ye Zhongming had talked about this problem before. Rhythm Observation allowed one to be very sensitive to everything. It could even help the user cover their tracks, and it was suitable for assassins. It was one of the valuable support jobs.

Gan Lan was very lucky to get it, but her main job was the fire element-- Soul Burner, a pure fire elemental job similar to Flame Elf. But it couldn't transform. Each second, her body would surge with flame energy, making her easily noticed.

Her main and support jobs didn't complement each other; they conflicted instead.

This situation happened because of that conflict.

Facing the brutal words of this young guy, the hot-tempered Gan Lan surprisingly didn't retort. She slightly shook her body as if she had no energy to argue.

Mei Na glanced at her good friend, and sadness flashed in her eyes.

Although the Nalan Battle Squad seemed strong, as they didn't have any standout combat strength and the leaders were female, they reached a bottleneck.

The apocalypse was much darker than peacetime. In the past, if two beautiful women opened a company, they would be protected by the law, and people with bad intentions would be warded off.

But there were no rules in the apocalypse. Two beautiful women were so valuable. They didn't have any guns, just blades. To some factions, they were pieces of fat meat. If done well, they would get both people and money.

Under such a situation, what could stop those factions from eyeing them?

Among these factions was the one that Zhang Zhongzhen represented. Or rather, the faction that his father represented.

Resistance Zone G Zone!

Mei Na and Gan Lan both felt huge pressure before coming here. They knew that dangers were slowly approaching and might land someday. When the time comes, they would only have two choices.

One was death, and the other was to end up as a toy.

They naturally weren't willing to accept that.

Five Ring Money's invitation gave them some hope.

Five Ring Money promised them a six-star potion if they did this well.

Although it looked like a six-star evolved was one of the strongest groups of people, the bosses of the top factions were already seven-star. There were over ten people on the solo rankings that were level seven.

But that number wouldn't be in the high double digits. Even Five Ring Money or top ten super factions like the Resistance Zone only had a few seven-star evolved. If you looked at the entire country, a province would have around two people.

As long as they were six-star, they would have the strength to face Zhang Hetai. More importantly, only by reaching six stars could they quickly clear mutated lifeforms of the same level and let another person turn into six stars.

If they had two six-stars, they would be able to protect themselves.

Plans were ideal, but reality was cruel. They thought that since Five Ring Money felt they could solve the problem, things wouldn't be too different. After appearing, they realized Rhythm Observation was useful, but... her flame job broke that advantage.

Chapter 1134: Familiar face

Speaking of which, Hundred Hole Swamp was very special. The resource points were all in the cat ears. But how many holes were there in such a huge swamp? After the Royal Guild tabulated the numbers, they realized there were over two thousand!

Moreover, the information about the resource points wasn't as detailed as what Ye Zhongming knew. They needed to search them one by one.

But this dungeon was far more dangerous than the intermediate region. Five Ring Money had to send at least a dozen five-star evolved each time to explore it with one six-star as a core. If not, the few deacons had to enter personally.

Five Ring Money wouldn't spend so much effort scouting a dungeon, so after a few caves, they summarised the dangers in this place. As for how to unlock them, they would discuss and come up with a plan.

Based on the plan, they would invite evolved, which was their special invitation.

Gan Lan and Mei Na felt that they probably had confidence in them since Five Ring Money invited them to help. But in truth, Five Ring Money just based their plans on the information they had. Even they weren't able to ensure success.

As for why they promised a six-star potion because factions that could enter the dungeons that the invited factions entered had to pay additional entrance fees, which meant that everyone paid for the cost of inviting these invited factions. Five Ring Money naturally wouldn't be too stingy on the payment in that case as they were inviting people to risk their lives.

As for the final reward, they would discuss who will get it. Either someone pays for it, or it would go to the faction that managed to get it.

There were naturally problems with that but factions outside were all facing such issues and risks in the outside world.

Every faction agreed to an agreement that seemed unfair and had many holes. Apart from each faction being confident, there was nothing else they could say. The apocalypse was different from peacetime.

Although these factions agreed they could discuss the final reward, that was up to those people. Who were these factions that could pay for the entrance ticket? They were at least ranked in the top 20 and knew that the dungeons with special invitation factions had top-grade rewards, so they rushed over.

For example, if a boss on the Internet had a new project that had many technological barriers that needed solving and sent an invitation for the experts in the world to work together and discuss how to solve it, they would discuss how to split the interests, which means that that person would be able to earn some money.

This wasn't hard to understand. They might have conflicts when negotiating, but they had status, so fights were the maximum, and they would all benefit. It depended on who would benefit more, but they wouldn't care much. After all, things might change the next time, and others might benefit more.

But things were different for the invited factions. They were hired to help, and everyone would pay for them. This faction was like a company that had crucial technology for the project, but compared to these giants, it didn't mean much.

The bosses didn't mind giving them some payment to save time and manpower.

Nalan Battle Squad played such a role.

However, Nalan's Battle Squad failed to complete what they should have done, which meant that they didn't show the value they should have.

In such a situation, they offended the other bosses and couldn't get their payment. Without their payment, their hope of getting to six stars was gone. Then what would await Ganlan and Mei Na?

Although Zhang Zhongzhen's words were rude, he said a fact. He was probably gloating in his heart.

This had to do with G Zone's expansion this year.

They didn't want to let S Zone go, much less Nalan's battle squad.

To the other factions here, they might be unhappy with Nalan's uselessness. But Zhang Zhongzhen didn't care and was even happy deep down.

But Mei Na didn't know that he would think that way; even if she could say it out loud, her words had no basis. Others wouldn't believe her even if she said it, and if they did, so what?

There was no justice in the apocalypse. If others knew, they might be interested in them, too.

Seeing Zhang Zhongzhen laugh coldly, Mei Na felt it was probably time to give up the base when they returned. If they couldn't offend them, they could only hide.

But... To give up on a familiar environment to face unknown dangers and even fight with other factions for land... To find new hunting grounds...

Everything became unknown and blur. There was even a risk that her subordinates would leave them.

Mei Na helped Gan Lan up and glanced at these people before planning to leave. At this time, a voice spread from the mist. It sounded like many people were walking over.

These people weren't shocked that there was a new faction, but they were shocked when they saw the person.

There weren't many people, only a few hundred, but they saw two Five Ring Money deacons!

Deacon Tong and Deacon Water were accompanying a young man.

Although Five Ring Money ranked themselves tenth, everyone knew that they were being humble not to grab attention.

Everyone felt that they should be in the top five.

Bright Water World was also their home ground, which gave them the advantage. Normally speaking, everyone should avoid heading to the same dungeon as them.

They understood this place too well. If you fought with the owner, you would lose out.

These factions were bosses outside, so they wouldn't accept such a matter.

Even if there were specially invited factions, Five Ring Money would only send one deacon. Now that two came, this...

Many people had other thoughts. Was there something that tempted Five Ring Money to send two deacons to get the reward?

Although they weren't willing, they had no choice; Five Ring Money owned Bright Water World.

Many faction leaders headed over and greeted the two.

Mei Na and Gan Lan, who planned to leave, didn't want to join. If things went badly, they might even be turned into cannon fodder. But when they were about to leave, what they saw stopped them.

Chapter 1135: Ice Bug

"Let me introduce; this is Cloud Peak's Mr Ye." Deacon Tong raised his hand toward Ye Zhongming to introduce his identity.

Less than three years had passed since the start of the apocalypse, and people were still used to peacetime terms like Mr, Miss, Handsome, etc. But five years later, things like captain, team leader, deacon, chief, and even King, Saint, and Emperor would become more common.

Although Deacon Tong wasn't very detailed, because of the country rankings, everyone knew who he was the moment he said Cloud Peak and Ye Zhongming.

Many people were shocked.

Some were shocked because this was the leader of the sixth super faction and in the top ten in the solo rankings.

Some people thought deeper and felt that such a strong person was definitely here to snatch the rewards. This added a few more unexpected changes to the reward distribution.

Naturally, the two factions had different thoughts. One was Zhang Zhongzhen. Their resistance zone was ranked first, but they weren't confident before Ye Zhongming. Others might have known a little about what happened to C and T Zone, but he knew clearly. He knew what Cloud Peak did.

Although Ji Ruiguang wouldn't tell them everything about the earth elf, the entire process couldn't be hidden. With Zhang Hetai's understanding of that person, even if he didn't guess fully, he still guessed most of it. Naturally, he realized the huge part that Cloud Peak and Ye Zhongming played.

Moreover, as the Resistance Zone's information speed was quicker and more accurate, they understood Cloud Peak better than anyone else.

Zhang Zhongzhen panicked a little when he saw Ye Zhongming. Although it was just a little, it was clear enough for Ye Zhongming to pick it up.

After all, Ye Zhongming was on the same level as his father, but he was much weaker. Even if he had evolved into a seven-star because of his father, he was still weak.

Relationships became uncertain in the apocalypse. The only reliable thing was direct blood relations, such as father and son, mother and son, etc.

This was also not absolute. In Cloud Peak, Ye Zhongming was very close to the few women, his subordinates, Liu Zhenghong and Le Dayuan, etc. Some others were cold-blooded and didn't mind sacrificing their loved ones when needed.

The other faction was naturally Gan Lan and Mei Na.

They didn't expect to meet someone they knew here.

When they faced the threat of the resistance zone, they considered finding Ye Zhongming. They already knew about Cloud Peak's tempting bounty.

But they already had a familiar base and weren't willing to give up on it. They also didn't think that Cloud Peak had the responsibility to help them. If they went there, they would be entering another lion's den. The third reason was the relationship between Cloud Peak and Resistance Zone. Even if the former wanted to help, there might not be much that he could do.

The thought flashed across their minds, but that was it.

But things were different now. Ye Zhongming appeared before them and was accompanied by two deacons. This was the treatment that even Zhang Zhongzhen didn't receive. Although Zhang Zhongzhen wasn't the boss of the Resistance Zone, his father was, and his status wasn't low. Ye Zhongming received the treatment that he didn't. From this angle, Ye Zhongming might not be on the same level as Zhang Hetai, but he was nearly there.

To a drowning person, every piece of floating wood could save her life.

Ye Zhongming's appearance was that piece of wood for the drowning mei Na and Gan Lan.

No, it was at least a wooden boat.

He introduced Zhang Zhongzhen and the others to Ye Zhongming. Ye Zhongming was quite surprised and didn't expect to meet someone from the Resistance Zone. Ye Zhongming thought those prideful fellows would occupy a dungeon alone.

"This place is Hundred Hole Swamp. These tunnels are all resource points, and each is connected to an ice corridor. It is really cold, and many holes can spit ice fog on both sides of the corridor. Even if we enter, the cold temperature would be a threat. Although I haven't tried it, I estimate that a seven-star evolved might not be able to spend too long there."

Deacon Tong didn't plan to introduce Mei Na and Gan Lan to Ye Zhongming. He knew the invited faction didn't complete their task, so they were useless. Since that was the case, they didn't care about that small organisation. They entered the country rankings because Five Ring Money raised their status to help draw more attention to Bright Water Feast.

The truth was like that. Most of the invited factions were ranked.

Ye Zhongming did see Mei Na and Gan Lan but Deacon Tong didn't introduce them and directly talked about matters so he didn't want to interrupt. He wasn't so familiar with the two of them such that he could interrupt Deacon Tong.

Ye Zhongming was indeed interested in Gan Lan's side job and even gave her the promise that she could find him in Cloud Peak. But that was because he felt that the Rhythm Observation job was very useful. It wasn't that he had high hopes for the two of them if not he would have recruited them on the spot.

When considering problems, Ye Zhongming cared about interests first. Five Ring Money could bring him more benefits now and not these two poor-looking women.

"Where is the difficulty?" Ye Zhongming was here to help so he needed to know what he had to do.

Deacon Tong didn't reply immediately and talked to the few factions here before saying, "The first difficulty is the small bugs in the ice fog. They are very small, the size of mosquitoes and their bite is very strong. They search for exposed skin and no evolved could block their teeth. Although they won't do direct damage, but they will suck heat. The biggest losses here are due to them."

After hearing Deacon Tong's words, Ye Zhongming glanced at Gan Lan who was covered in a blanket. He saw her wet hair and had some thoughts.