

## **Apocalypse 1256**

Chapter 1256: Why did they come?

The people in the room looked towards Ye Zhongming.

Their hearts shook.

What the Saintess and Ling Kun said represented the attitudes of Saint Light Hall and the Posthumous People. They didn't want to clash with the demon monster army, and this was the most beneficial solution for them.

But did they know that it would hurt Cloud Peak's interests?

Of course, they did.

Not mentioning Saint Light Hall as they were enemies with Cloud Peak. Posthumous People were allies with Cloud Peak. Now that your allies stood together with the enemy, it definitely felt awkward and ashamed.

They were naturally afraid that Ye Zhongming would oppose.

It was okay if Ye Zhongming and Cloud Peak were just a small faction that they could suppress to reach their goals. But Cloud Peak and Ye Zhongming were experts. Especially since Ye Zhongming became

eight star, he was stronger than everyone here. If Ling Kun or the Saintess fought him alone, they didn't have the confidence to win.

Cloud Peak was also very strong. It had strong weapons and equipment, a high average level, weird gene warriors, and those terrifying crystal weapons.

Honestly, be it the Posthumous People or Saint Light Hall, they weren't confident in taking Cloud Peak on.

Such a strong person represented a strong faction. Even if they were on the same side, they were still nervous.

One must know that this person controlled the space gate.

If Ye Zhongming left in anger, then they would have to wait here for death.

"This meeting is a plot, right?"

Ye Zhongming stood up and was expressionless. You couldn't see any rage from being plotted against or any other emotions.

But the more it was like that, the more terrified these people felt.

Saintess, two heads, kings, all of them stood up.

Xia Lei and Guang Yao, who accompanied Ye Zhongming, also stood up. Xia Bai even released Fallen Wings. If she received the order, she would attack these people.

“Zhongming, Zhongming! It isn’t what you think!”

Hong Xiang was the closest to Ye Zhongming, and when he saw that the situation was getting out of control, he told Ye Zhongming to calm down. He was afraid that this guy who he lost to when he was seven stars would turn on them. He didn’t think the six could force him to stay.

“Right, Zhongming. We are always friends, so why will we plot against you?” Hong Xiang panicked. Xia Bai’s actions made him regret it. Maybe he should have let Ye Zhongming in on this in advance, which would have made the situation less nervous.

He felt it wasn’t right for them to stand with the enemy and threaten Ye Zhongming to a certain extent.

“We didn’t want to hurt your interests. Today is just a discussion.” The Saintess explained.

Did Saint Light Hall and Posthumous People want to break their relationship with him? Of course not. They just wanted to pressure him so he would agree with their idea. Seeing that he showed signs of flipping the table, they panicked.

“Zhongming, we know that this means we will lose the entire Blue Secret Realm, and you will suffer huge losses.” Neal was embarrassed, “But facing these demon monsters, especially that level nine

presence, we can't handle it. Be it the Saintess or us, we have just gone through a huge battle and are injured. For the sake of our race's survival, we can't have a full war with the demon monsters."

Neal made himself sound sad, which slightly affected Xia Lei and Guang Yao.

They saw that the kings and Saint Light Hall didn't want to do anything bad to Cloud Peak and Ye Zhongming. They were just speaking from their own point of view and chose a path that was best for them.

"We can compensate you. You might not get as much as you would from the secret realm, but we will compensate you. Even if it would affect our lives on Earth, it is okay."

Seeing Neal say that, the Saintess spoke again, "Right, Saint Light Hall will do the same. We will also help Cloud Peak do things on Earth besides material things. For the next period of time, our army can also be fully under your control as long as you don't purposely send us to die."

Ye Zhongming relaxed a little.

That cold smile disappeared.

The fact that they could say such things like their entire race listening to an outsider showed that the Saintess did not want to hurt Cloud Peak.

But was that enough? Ye Zhongming could sacrifice his interests because of that?

How would he answer to Little Tiger, who had lost his eye here? How would he answer to the core members who were badly injured or dead? How would he answer to the Cloud Peak warriors who died for his Secret Realm plan?

Ye Zhongming told everyone to sit down and also told Xia Bai to calm down. He said slowly, "I understand your thoughts, and don't think you want to be enemies with me. If I was in your shoes, I might do the same too."

Hearing him say that, everyone smiled. No matter if they wanted to admit it or not, Ye Zhongming was the core of their hearts. His attitude decided many things.

"But just as what you worry, I also don't want to see Cloud Peak's interests being hurt." He walked to the curtain and saw the people busy outside. They wasn't as joyful as before and worried that the demon monster army was coming.

"Compensation?" He laughed, "How much can you give? To be honest, you can't give me much!"

Saintess and the kings coughed awkwardly and knew Ye Zhongming was saying the truth.

"As for listening to orders, I am not interested in uncertain things."

Saintess wanted to object, but Ye Zhongming waved and interrupted her.

“So, my stand is still the same. I don’t plan on giving up on the Secret Realm.”

The others looked at each other. They spoke for so long and weren’t able to change his thoughts?

“Of course, I don’t plan on fighting with the demon monsters. I want to live longer.”

“Then Zhongming what do you mean?” Hong Xiang looked around before asking.

He waved a finger.

“Before I answer that, let me ask a question. Did you think about why they are coming? Moreover, why are they coming toward the Imperial City?”

Chapter 1257: Try and you will know

That question caused the room to be silent.

Hong Xiang said, “Every period of time, demon monsters will invade our territory. This period differs. A long time has passed since they invaded. Now that they have all gone out, it should be similar. They want food.”

“You, I, and everyone outside are their food.”

In the long road of history, the Posthumous People and Saint Light Hall had been battling against the demon monsters.

Demon Monsters treated humans as their energy to evolve. Humans treated them as items to survive. They were each other's food.

When humans were strong, they tried to conquer the demon monsters. Similarly, when the demon monsters were strong, they would attack the humans for food.

But recently, due to the poor Secret Realm situation, humans found adapting harder. Humans started to get weak, and they were in a downturn. They couldn't gain an advantage in their battle against the demon monsters and could only defend themselves.

Now that they were attacking, the humans were sad and furious but weren't surprised. Although they weren't as intelligent as humans and didn't have an organisational structure like humans, they were intelligent.

They would start a war when they sensed a chance.

Demon monsters weren't humans. Levels were important; the stronger you became, the smarter you became. You had control over the weaker ones, and starting a war was much easier than being a human.

It had been long since the last invasion, so it wasn't hard to imagine why they were attacking again.

“I think there are two possibilities.” The Saintess had considered this problem, so her thinking was clear.

“First, their numbers have exceeded what the Night Demon Plains can handle, so they are attacking humans to reduce their numbers. This is a way they reduce the problem of having too little living space. Or some of them need to evolve, and humans are their key to evolution, so they start this race war.”

This was something everyone could think about. This was also the main reason why they invaded in the past.

“Second one.” Her voice became unnatural, “Humans have no more level nine, and that level nine monster sensed it. It wants to conquer the humans.”

Lack of balance was the problem that humans were facing. They couldn't restrict that level nine demon monster without a level nine presence. After it sensed that, it would naturally launch a war.

If possible, every race wanted to be the strongest in the space that they lived in and had no opposition.

“That monster won't give up on such a good chance. Our Saint Hall had many records and guesses from previous Saint Fathers. They said that level nine might not be the limit. Lifeforms can continue to improve, but there isn't a grade above nine, and they were all just called level nine. In truth, humans and demon monsters are working hard to get stronger. Especially after the space became unstable, everyone, including the Saint Father, was thinking of ways to break through the limit. To the Saint Father, that might mean getting out of the space and leaving this area.”

The room was really quiet. Everyone thought about what was above level nine, and they believed that there would be people stronger than level nine. After all, they had witnessed many magical things in the apocalypse.

Level nine represented the strongest, but it didn't mean the end. Maybe it will turn into another type of lifeform when you reach a certain level. These were thoughts that were had during peacetime, but they weren't proven.

But everyone was shocked by what the Saintess said.

Break through level nine, break through until you could leave this place.

Didn't that mean... Shattering space?

Ye Zhongming and the others from Earth thought about it more in detail. Stronger than level nine, getting away from Earth and traveling the universe?

How strong would you be?

"Zhongming, are you thinking the same way as the Saintess?"

Ling Kun was the first to come back to his senses. He was level eight, and he only now had some understanding of space rules since he traveled from the Secret Realm to Earth. But to talk about getting to level nine, that would take a long time. Not to mention getting above level nine.

Ye Zhongming shook his head, "No, I don't think it is fully that."

En?

Everyone looked at him. Was there another reason?

Ye Zhongming pointed at the sky, "Saint Father knew this place was about to collapse. All of you knew; I also knew. There is no way that monster can't sense it."

"Since that is the case, will it think about starting a war to survive in this space?"

Hearing Ye Zhongming say that, the Saintess said, "You are saying..."

"En." Ye Zhongming nodded, "I think one point you said is possible. It wants to break through and rely on its strength to break the restrictions and gain freedom."

"Also, don't forget that it has a simpler way to leave."

Saint Light Hall and the Posthumous People looked at each other and understood what Ye Zhongming meant.

“But it can sense the space gate?” Xia Lei frowned. Saint Father knew because Ye Zhongming was noticed when his soul went to the Gate of Blessing. That made Saint Father pay attention to the Posthumous People.

But this level nine monster relied on his sense to confirm that the space gate existed.

“That is possible...”

Saintess came into contact with the Saint Father the most and she understood level nine people the most. Thinking about how lifeforms of that level has such an ability, she felt that Ye Zhongming was right.

“That is the reason I don’t agree to give up on the Secret Realm.” Ye Zhongming saw that everyone didn’t understand, “If they came for the space gate, then we might not need to give up on the Secret Realm. I might have a way for everyone to retreat to Earth in a better way, and we can still work around here.”

“How do we make sure?” Zai Li asked.

Ye Zhongming looked at his Secret Realm key. “We just need to try, and we will know.”

Chapter 1258: Rat Army outline

Ye Zhongming's solution needed the help of many people. After he said it out, he arranged for people to start. But before things were done, he received the news that Red Hair had fallen unconscious.

He hurried back to Cloud Peak and saw Little Tiger and Young Master Yun sending Red Hair back.

There was also the following Talking Lady.

Ye Zhongming sat beside the bed, listening to Little Tiger and Zhan Pingkang describe what happened in detail. Ye Zhongming was silent for a long time.

Red Hair was a lifeform that he created himself. Her connection with him was very tight. Even after her rebirth, this connection didn't break and just became more controllable.

As long as they wanted, they could read each other's minds like twins.

But now, no matter how Ye Zhongming tried to contact her, he received no reply. That felt like... Red Hair was dead.

The current Red Hair was similar to that of a dead person. If not for her temperature, people who looked at her not breathing would think that she was dead.

Park Xiuying and the other medical job experts used skills but they were useless.

“What about that undead dragonfish?” Ye Zhongming asked suddenly.

Little Tiger immediately replied, “It looks weak. Apart from the start where it struggled, it seems to have improved.”

The dragonfish was getting better, but Red Hair was still unconscious... This situation gave Ye Zhongming a headache.

“Let me take a look.” Liu Zhenghong appeared in the room.

She observed Red Hair and said, “Take her to my lab; it is more convenient there.”

She was Ye Zhongming’s last hope. Hearing her instructions, he carried Red Hair to the lab and spent some time describing the situation to Red Hair before leaving.

Red Hair’s current situation wasn’t figured out, so Ye Zhongming could only wait.

After leaving the lab, he saw that Xia Lei was waiting outside.

“Rat King is here. It couldn’t send a message to Red Hair, so it was anxious.”

Since agreeing to Ye Zhongming's conditions, they became more well-behaved. As for those hundred thousand kids, although its heart hurt, it didn't care. If it had some time, it could rely on the next reproduction round to make up for it.

At the same time, Cloud Peak gave it the first type of gene-modified descendant, which satisfied him. The new rats showed what made the Rat King feel that working with Cloud Peak was the right choice. It was already considering whether or not it should hand over some descendent of one of its partners to see the effect.

But, although it was satisfied, it was still worried about Ye Zhongming. It was still afraid that this Cloud Peak King would attack it. If possible, it didn't want to face this guy.

But it came to hand over the goods, so it had to come.

In a giant cave near Cloud Peak, Ye Zhongming met the Rat King. It seemed like the Rat King had brought all his subordinates as if that would have made it feel safe.

In truth, only that could make it feel safe.

After what happened to Red Hair and the Secret Realm, Ye Zhongming was in a bad mood. He didn't have a good attitude toward the Rat King, making the timid fellow toss a hundred thousand subordinates down before leaving.

The remaining hundred thousand mutated rats were half laid on the ground. Their eyes lit up when they looked at the Cloud Peak king and waited for their fates.

“Follow me!”

Ye Zhongming brought them into the Secret Realm.

When passing the space gate, the timid fellows even caused some chaos. Many low-level mutated rats thought about running, and Cloud Peak’s warriors killed many.

Some people from the gene lab came with them. With Cloud Peak and Posthumous People’s suppression, the mutated rats were equipped with a small device that Liu Zhenghong requested.

This was a time-consuming process. It took three days to equip them.

The researchers took many things and injected many mysterious liquids into the equipment.

The mutated rats naturally wouldn’t behave well during that process. It was a process covered in blood and killing. When everything was done, only ninety thousand rats remained.

That took another two days.

News spread that the demon monster army had passed the undead hill.

“Zhongming, you are only bringing so few people and... These rats?”

Hong Xiang was worried. Although other humans wouldn't stop them, it wouldn't be an easy trip. As the demon monster army headed into the human territory and broke the rules, their living area would increase by multiple folds.

If Ye Zhongming's guess was correct and the level nine lifeform was here for the space gate, the moment it sensed something, it would dash toward Ye Zhongming. How would he react to that?

Ye Zhongming could only smile, “It is fine. If that fellow really comes, the number of people won't make a difference.”

“Then, take care.”

This was the only thing that the kings could say.

“Don't worry. The Saintess will be at the front. We will make use of the Secret Realm's big space.”

Just like that, Ye Zhongming led Xia Bai and her better squad, Yangos, who mainly recovered, and ninety thousand mutated rats toward Saint Light Hall.

The team encountered many ordinary people who had moved over from Saint Light Hall. This mass migration was majestic, especially when those big towns were together. The huge group and the nervousness on each of their faces made Ye Zhongming feel like he was witnessing history.

On the third day, Ye Zhongming opened the Secret Realm key and that lasted for two hours.

Using this time, Ye Zhongming went back to take a look at Red Hair. What disappointed him was that Liu Zhenghong didn't have any breakthroughs, so he would have to wait for a while longer.

He returned to the Secret Realm and led the team forward. Moreover, the mutated rat army started to fight. Some demon monsters became their target. There was no organisation or strategy. The moment Ye Zhongming noticed the tracks of demon monsters when he was in the sky, he let the mutated rats attack.

The entire team was either fighting or moving forward. The only ones doing nothing were the humans who were watching.

Every day, he would open the Space Gate and deal with some Cloud Peak matters before returning.

The team moved forward. The mutated rat army also started to change.

Chapter 1259: Proof

Those changes were visible.

When they first came to the secret realm, they were weak. Even if Ye Zhongming told the Rat King to give him quality ones, the undeniable fact was that apart from some that had the strengths of their ancestors, the others were weaker than other lifeforms of the same level.

The largest group was not only weak but much weaker.

Now, this situation changed.

Firstly, they became more bold and weren't as timid as before.

When they weren't hungry, it was hard for them to be vicious. It was the same case even when they were moving as a horde.

Only when the target was weak, and there were few of them, would they choose to attack.

Of course, this would change if they were hungry. They would become bloodthirsty to survive.

The mutated rats were like that at the start. What they didn't know was that the small device had some adrenaline. Ye Zhongming could control their injection into their bodies.

They became violent and fearless.

Many victories and delicious meals made the rats more courageous, even without the adrenaline.

Evolved lifeforms were constantly changing. They were timid before because of their nature and because they were hunted in Ying City.

Once they released their viciousness and won every battle, they became more cruel. Sometimes, even without Ye Zhongming's orders, they would charge toward demon monsters they spotted.

The second change was that their evolution levels were increasing.

The more demon monsters they killed, the more energy they obtained, so their evolution speed would increase. Especially those lower-level cannon fodder rats. That change was more apparent. Some of the stronger cannon fodder rats had evolved twice.

As for those that were slightly stronger, they were also evolving, but it wasn't as obvious.

In this process, the small device was still working and was even playing a key role.

One of the core potions was a gene medicine created by Liu Zhengongd. It was a support drug.

The potion was to increase the probability of the rats having positive mutations and get stronger.

Due to the number of them and the fact that the potions were only supposed to be rats still that didn't have the desired effect. But the number of success cases had increased.

In the following battles, with the strong winning and weak being eliminated, the rat army would change. Those weaker ones would slowly be eliminated.

The third change was their thinking.

One part of the potion was slowly injected into the mutated rat's body. The only function was to make them listen.

In truth, these potions were the biggest use of that equipment. It was a show of Cloud Peak's gene technology.

Slowly changing their genes to make them break away from being a rat, break free from the Rat King's control, and become Cloud Peak's rat army.

It sounded simple, but it was tough to achieve without Le Dayuan's exquisite design and Liu Zhenhong's gene injector. Without Ye Zhongming's Smith job, all of this wouldn't have been possible.

This plan wasn't perfect. Since Liu Zhenhong noticed the mutated rats eating the by-products of the gene lab, to being able to study them and then crafting the equipment, some time had passed. But this time was not much for an experiment and was even very rushed.

But these preparations were built on Cloud Peak's materials and skills, so they could take shape quickly.

The outcome didn't fully satisfy Ye Zhongming.

For example, after the adrenaline example, some mutated rats became angry and violent and started attacking their allies. When evolving, although most of them showed the abilities that Liu Zhengong wanted them to show, some died because of gene rejection. This made Xia Bai's battle squad and those following researchers very busy. They had to clear those rats to prevent other rats from eating them.

For example, the potions changed them and made them listen to orders. However, some of their brains were damaged and they became stupid.

These imperfect parts were another reason why the number of rats reduced.

Fifteen days after Ye Zhongming led the rat army toward Saint Light Hall and received news of the demon monsters, the number of rats dropped by twenty thousand, and only seventy thousand remained.

He used the key and returned to Earth. Many people tried to persuade him.

Especially his few women. Since his idea was proven and the level nine demon monster was here for the space gate, then his entering was too risky. Truth proved that the demon monster army had changed directions and was chasing Ye Zhongming's army. However, they were far from each other; who could ensure that the level nine lifeform would remain with his army? What if it chased alone? Who could battle it?

But Ye Zhongming had his own thoughts. He felt that although he didn't understand why, after so many days, that level nine lifeform still didn't chase alone. There was a chance that it wouldn't get free from its army. Since that was the case, he would still follow his plan and head toward Saint Light Hall.

That was a part of his agreement with the Saint Light Hall.

Since he was so adamant, the others were worried, but they could do nothing and could only follow Ye Zhongming's previous instructions.

When Ye Zhongming was about to return, news spread from the gene lab. Liu Zhenghong called him over. He rushed over, and Sister Hong's first word delighted him.

"Red Hair woke up!"

Chapter 1260: Big problem

This was the first time he had seen Red Hair so weak.

She was laid in the biggest gene lab, Liu Zhenghong's own lab. She opened her eyes and looked at Ye Zhongming walk in.

She tried to smile, but her face was very stiff, and it looked like she was making a funny face to him.

“When did she wake?” Ye Zhongming turned and looked at Liu Zhenghong.

“A few hours ago.”

“Has she always been like this?”

“Yes.” Liu Zhenghong rubbed her eyes in exhaustion. Since Red Hair fell unconscious, she didn’t rest much. If she weren’t an evolved, she would have died.

“What happened? Did you get an answer? Can you solve it?”

This was what Ye Zhongming was most concerned with. In his impression, Red Hair might not be invincible, but she had never stayed down. No matter who she faced, even against the Saint Father.

But this time, she fell unconscious for so long after killing monsters that were lower level than her. This was something he couldn’t understand and made him even more worried.

Although both his hands were covered in blood, it didn’t mean he had no emotions. He protected his own people the most.

This was the reason why Cloud Peak protected its weak parts.

Liu Zhenghong didn’t reply to his question but pointed to the side.

Ye Zhongming looked and saw the two-faced monster lying on the other bed. But its treatment was far worse. Its body was covered in many tubes, from its face to its limbs. They were all dissected to reveal a different structure from humans.

“This monster attacked Red Hair. It was a liquid from one face.”

Liu Zhenhong walked to a machine and continued, “I tested the liquid, but... Sorry, with our current standards, we can’t find out what it is.”

Ye Zhongming was surprised by this. To him, there was nothing that was too difficult for Liu Zhenhong.

“Red Hair woke up herself?” If Liu Zhenhong didn’t save her then it meant that she woke up by herself.

She nodded, “Yes, she did. She has consciousness, but her body can’t move. She can’t control it.”

He tugged the new Star armor on his body. He was happy that he had previously obtained the star elf’s recognition, but now that joy was gone because of what happened to Red Hair.

“You said that she has been awake for a few hours? Are there signs of her getting better?”

Liu Zhenghong looked at the guy who was like her younger brother, “Zhongming, you are not calm.”

In normal circumstances, Ye Zhongming wouldn't behave like this. He was anxious.

He was stunned and calmed himself down.

“Time is too short, and I am unsure if she can self-heal. Since she woke up herself, there is a high chance of recover. The undead dragon fish was unstable previously, and although it hasn't healed yet, it has some combat strength. Red Hair should be the same.”

This answer made Ye Zhongming relax. He knew that although she was just guessing, it was most probably the case.

“Her matter isn't why I came to find you.”

Ye Zhongming was stunned. Not Red Hair? Then what?

Ye Zhongming frowned as he looked toward what she was looking at, “It?”

She was looking at the two-faced monster.

“En.” Liu Zhenghong was solemn.

“It isn’t that I am too confident in myself, but at least, after evolving, here...” She pointed at her head, “Be it memory, understanding, or inference abilities, all of them have improved. Along with my strong body, if it was before the apocalypse, I would get any of the scientific prizes. My theories and results have exceeded Earth’s technologies by years.”

“Even in the apocalypse, I believe that even if I am not the best biologist, I am one of the best. There aren’t more than three people better than me in the world!”

Ye Zhongming didn’t say anything and just listened. He knew that the more she said, the more it meant that what she would say was bad.

“But I studied for so many days and have had no progress. None at all!” Liu Zhenghong picked up a test tube with some liquid, “This is what made her fall unconscious. When it touches air, it will vapourise. If a lifeform touches it, they will faint. The more they touch, the longer and worse it gets.”

“This will happen if you are five-star and above. It will instantly kill low-level lifeforms.”

Liu Zhenghong sighed, “Fortunately, she was strong enough. If not, with the amount she came into contact with, she would have died.”

“That undead dragon fish...” Ye Zhongming asked.

“That is an undead lifeform. Although it is effective on it, it isn’t as strong as on others.”

She placed it down and pointed at the green face.

“The tentacles have some dark green liquid. Its corrosiveness is extremely strong. With the things we have, none of them can resist it. It can corrode any material, so we can’t analyse it. This shows how dangerous it is. Fortunately, Red Hair killed it. If it fired the green thing, the outcome would be unimaginable.”

Ye Zhongming was shocked. This thing was so strong?

“Fortunately, when the thing corrodes something, it will dissect itself. Once it breaks down, the corrosion will stop. So if evolved touches this, whether or not you survive depends on the strength of your equipment and your resistance.”

“Sister Hong, what do you want to say?”

Was she telling him that the things in both faces were something they had no way of understanding?

She sighed and said something shocking, “Zhongming, we are in big trouble this time.”