

## Apocalypse 1441

### Chapter 1441: Cloud Peak Battle Beast Unit

When Ye Zhongming returned to Cloudtop Manor, the entire mountain felt like it was celebrating a festival.

This was how it always was whenever Ye Zhongming came back.

And this time, his return was particularly grand. After all, five hundred battle beasts, most adults, walking together—some flying in the sky, others running on the ground—was a spectacular sight.

Before Ye Zhongming could even settle in, the captains of the main combat squads who hadn't gone out arrived. Little Tiger, Guang Yao, Tong Hu, and others were all present.

"Boss, dear boss," Little Tiger began. If anyone in Cloud Peak had thick skin, it was undoubtedly Little Tiger. "These battle beasts are quite impressive. I heard they're specialties of Thousand Beast Villa, and they have specialized control devices, right?"

Looking at Xiao Hu's expression, Ye Zhongming couldn't help but want to laugh. His gaze swept over the cloth covering Xiao Hu's eyes, and a faint sadness flickered in his heart.

"Yeah," Ye Zhongming responded with a light hum. He didn't need to think hard to know what Little Tiger was after.

Guang Yao, Tong Hu, Mo Ye, and the others stood nearby, barely holding back their laughter as they watched Little Tiger put on his act.

"Can I have some?" Little Tiger asked with a flattering smile, then put on a facade of fairness. "Boss, look, Guang Yao has his Chain-slicer Tank, Sister Mo Ye has the Holy Army Coat, Sister Chuyin has a battle skirt set, Young Master Yun has that level-six battle beast you found for him, Brother Shengyuan only needs his shield, and Ah Yang has his many brothers..."

He rambled on, essentially saying that everyone else had something special while he had nothing.

"What about Tong Hu? Why didn't you mention him?" Ye Zhongming asked, suppressing a laugh.

Tong Hu was well-equipped, his team was strong, and most importantly, he was fearless in battle, making his team the first choice for charging into the fray among Cloud Peak's many combat units. But these couldn't be used as bargaining chips.

Little Tiger was momentarily stumped. After a long pause, he finally said, "Tong Hu has Little Li."

Everyone burst into laughter, with Tong Hu laughing the loudest. Little Li, who was standing nearby, came over and kicked Little Tiger. Then, she went back to pinch Tong Hu's ear, scolding him for being heartless and laughing with everyone else.

This only made everyone laugh even harder.

"These battle beasts aren't for you," Ye Zhongming said, pushing Little Tiger aside as he dramatically opened his mouth in mock disbelief.

Looking at the team captains in the room, Ye Zhongming hadn't even spoken when Mo Ye took the lead.

"Zhongming, we don't need these battle beasts. We've already taken a lot of battle beast eggs and young beasts from the warehouse. It's better to raise them slowly so we can get used to them."

Mo Ye was a veteran. Her personality was resolute, and while she appeared cold and reserved, she was actually very warm-hearted and always willing to help others.

When considering issues, she always approached them from the perspective of Cloud Peak. She never fought over resources, believing that what was meant to be given would come naturally and that forcibly demanding things would only harm unity and leave a bad impression on Ye Zhongming.

Her team had inherited Mo Ye's personality. Among the main combat teams, they were the most balanced and stable, almost like a guardian team.

At the same time, her team was versatile and capable of both offense and defense, making them the ideal backbone of any operation.

Ye Zhongming's evaluation of Mo Ye's team was that they could attack fiercely and defend well.

This showed that the personality of a team's leader directly reflected on the team's overall temperament.

Guang Yao and the others also said they didn't need the battle beasts. While these battle beasts were of decent levels, their team members were all at least four-star evolved. Adding these battle beasts would require adjustment, and in the short term, their combat strength might not increase—it could even decrease.

Ye Zhongming didn't insist. Cloud Peak's battle beasts were well-fed and well-cared for, with great growth potential. That was understandable if the captains wanted to raise their own, like the female guards.

"In that case, I've already marked some of these battle beasts for Sister Hong's lab. Whoever wants them can take the rest. If there are any left..."

Ye Zhongming paused, and the room immediately fell silent.

They all knew this was their boss's signature pause before deciding.

"The number of battle beast cubs, eggs, and other young creatures in our warehouse is growing. I've decided to establish a dedicated department to take care of, tame, and train these battle beasts for future use."

The battle beasts had been on everyone's minds, including Ye Zhongming's, but only after returning from Thousand Beast Villa did Ye Zhongming decide to address it properly. The young mutated lifeforms from the secret realms, dungeons, wilderness, and unhatched eggs were being wasted if left untouched. It would be better to gradually figure out how to hatch and tame them, as they might prove unexpectedly useful in the future.

"I plan to invite people from Saint Light Hall and Posthumous People, as they are the most familiar with the secret realm's demon monsters. Also, among the people who accompanied Yuan Yuan here, are evolved skilled in taming war beasts. They will contribute as well. As for the leader of this battle beast camp..."

"Yuan Yuan will take charge."

Ye Zhongming's gaze fell on the young girl quietly standing in the corner.

Everyone suddenly understood why the boss had brought this little girl, who was said to be Li Daqian's granddaughter, into the room. It was to have her lead the newly established battle beast camp.

But she was an outsider. Was this a good idea?

Those quick-minded people realized Ye Zhongming's intention.

The battle beast camp was just being established, and everything was in its infancy. It needed experienced people to help. The Posthumous People and Saint Light Hall would naturally assist if Ye Zhongming asked, but Cloud Peak had no one with such expertise on Earth.

With its mature methods, Thousand Beast Villa was undoubtedly the best representative in the region. By making Yuan Yuan the leader of the battle beast camp, those who came with her would surely give their all. When the news reached Li Daqian, he would also sense Cloud Peak's goodwill.

As for secrets, there were none to worry about. Thousand Beast Villa was far more authoritative in this area than Cloud Peak.

Most importantly, Yuan Yuan was not a permanent member of Cloud Peak. She would eventually return to Thousand Beast Villa, and the position would naturally become vacant, allowing someone from Cloud Peak to step in. By then, they would have learned the techniques and gained the experience.

Standing to the side, Xia Lei secretly gave Ye Zhongming a thumbs-up.

Yuan Yuan clearly hadn't expected Ye Zhongming to give her this position. She looked uneasy, as her actual age was under four. Even though children matured faster in the apocalypse, she was still only equivalent to a ten-year-old from the peaceful era.

Ye Zhongming smiled reassuringly and assigned Miya to care for her daily life.

"As for you..." Ye Zhongming's gaze shifted to Little Tiger.

"No battle beasts for you, but this is for you."

With that, he placed a small box on the table.

Chapter 1442: Replacement Eye

Little Tiger was momentarily stunned, his expression filled with confusion as he took the small box. He gently opened it and saw two crystal-clear, teardrop-shaped pearls inside.

"This... this..." Little Tiger's hands trembled.

The others were equally shocked.

This item was one of the best rewards, appearing after the Gate of Sacrifice was upgraded to seven-colored grade. It was something that left everyone in awe.

These were Lucy's Tears... two of them.

"Boss..." Little Tiger's voice choked up.

None of them were fools. They all knew just how precious this item was.

Although one of the abilities of Lucy's Tears was particularly suited for Little Tiger, the other abilities were arguably even more valuable.

Everyone, including Little Tiger, had never imagined that Ye Zhongming would take this item out and give it to someone else.

Because it was simply too precious!

It could be consumed, and after consumption, it would increase one's strength by 30%. With two, the increase would be 50%!

Ye Zhongming's strength was already immense, unmatched in the post-apocalyptic world. Only someone like Shengyuan, a pure defensive ability user Ye Zhongming had nurtured, could rival him in this aspect.

If Ye Zhongming had consumed these two tears, his strength would have skyrocketed, and his overall power would have been significantly enhanced.

His job skills, other abilities, basic attack power, and any strength-related attacks would all see a substantial boost.

Ye Zhongming might even become the most powerful person in the entire region.

Or, even if he didn't consume them himself, giving them to someone like Xia Bai or Liang Chuyin, who were loyal to him, would increase their agility by 50%. One could only imagine their power after consuming them, especially Xia Bai. Who could possibly evade her attacks then?!

In addition, the core members already knew that Ye Zhongming had been promoted to the highest level Smith. Naturally, they were thrilled, as Ye Zhongming would no longer have any restrictions when crafting equipment and weapons. At least in theory, he could now create items of any level.

It was easy to imagine that with Ye Zhongming's advancement, Cloud Peak's equipment would also rise to a new level.

And Lucy's Tears was a top-tier material.

They were even more precious than Ghost Metal, Drill Ocean Metal, or even level-nine monster materials!

This pair of tears could not only be used as gems but also serve as the best blueprint for the most difficult-to-obtain accessories.

Not to mention the abilities they could grant when crafted into accessories, just the simple gem functions alone were enough to make any Smith unwilling to let them go.

Whether chiseled into weapons, armor, or accessories, they could increase the corresponding attack power, defense, or main attributes by 30%.

Thirty percent! And that was just for one. With two, it would be 60%!

And there was more!

They could elevate the level of the equipment by one, up to purple grade.

If Ye Zhongming used these two tears himself, he would add two purple-grade items to his list of creations!

This wasn't just an achievement; it was a mark of honor!

But Ye Zhongming had given up all of this. He had handed over these tears, which represented two purple-grade items, to Little Tiger.

"I've been trying to find a Black Soul job or a top-tier healer who could regenerate an eye for you, but I haven't found one. So, this is the only option for now."

Ye Zhongming spoke as if he were reluctant, but even if Little Tiger was a bit slow, he knew his boss was just trying to make him feel less guilty. His eyes immediately reddened, and despite several attempts to hold back, tears streamed down from his remaining good eye.

This young man, who had never cried even after losing an eye, crouched on the ground and sobbed openly. Then, with a thud, he knelt before Ye Zhongming, half his body pressed to the ground, unable to speak.

Ye Zhongming pulled Little Tiger to his feet.

"We men, we kneel to heaven and earth, our homeland, and our parents and teachers. Nothing else is worth our kneel!"

"Boss, I... I can't take this. You could use them to..."

Ye Zhongming cut him off before he could finish.

"I said they're for you, so stop with the nonsense. Don't be such a woman."

This immediately drew glares from the women in the room, including the half-understanding Yuan Yuan.

Ye Zhongming coughed awkwardly and patted Little Tiger's shoulder. "You lost your eye for Cloud Peak, so it's my responsibility to help you recover."

Although Ye Zhongming said this, everyone knew the truth wasn't so simple. While Little Tiger had lost his eye fighting for Cloud Peak, it wasn't just for Ye Zhongming—it was for himself, too. Ye Zhongming didn't owe anyone anything. On the contrary, everyone in Cloud Peak "owed" Ye Zhongming. It was this man who willingly shared resources with everyone and led them through the apocalypse, ensuring not only their survival but also their rise to true strength.

"Alright, try them on. But I suggest you replace both eyes. That way, you'll gain three abilities. If you only replace one, you'll only get one ability."

Hearing this, Xiao Hu quickly waved his hands. "No, no, boss. I don't even want one. I've gotten used to having one eye."

Ye Zhongming shook his head firmly.

"Use them. Stop with the nonsense. The stronger you are, the more you can help Zhongming," Xia Lei said.

Little Tiger hesitated for a moment. "Boss, then... I'll use one."

"Use both. Don't you have the confidence to surpass a purple-grade item?" Ye Zhongming said seriously.

"Alright!"

At this point, Little Tiger knew that further refusal would be ungrateful. Without hesitation, he pulled out a dagger from his waist and, without a second thought, gouged out his remaining good eye!

The others watched in horror.

To be so ruthless to himself—it was no wonder Little Tiger had risen to become one of Cloud Peak's top figures at such a young age, earning Ye Zhongming's utmost trust and reliance.

"Boss, how do I do this?"

With blood covering his face, Little Tiger handed the box to Ye Zhongming, who took it and said, "Stay still." He removed one of Lucy's Tears, removed the eyepatch, and embedded the gem-like tear into the empty socket.

As the tear entered Xiao Hu's eye socket, thin black tendrils pierced into the surrounding tissue. Even though it had left Ye Zhongming's hand, it automatically adapted to the human eye socket, moving slightly to adjust itself before settling into place.

"Look, it's changing!"

Little Li, standing close by, saw the tear transform into the shape of an eye in just a few seconds!

This miraculous sight made her cover her mouth in astonishment.

Ye Zhongming felt relieved. It seemed this item truly was extraordinary. He then placed the second tear into the other eye socket.

The same miraculous transformation occurred again, taking on the shape of an eye. From the outside, there was no visible difference.

However, Xiao Hu's new eyes were incredibly bright, with a deep, profound gaze compared to a normal person's eyes. They seemed to hold the brilliance of a starry sky or the richness of an ink painting.

"Boss, I... I can see!" Little Tiger exclaimed with childlike excitement. "Holy crap, I can see so far and so clearly! Little Li, your pores are that rough?"

"Do you want to die?!" Little Li narrowed her eyes threateningly.

"Alright, enough joking. Tell us, what abilities did you gain?" Ye Zhongming was very interested in this.

Little Tiger, however, just grinned mischievously. "Boss, let's go to an open area. I'll show you how amazing I've become!"

Chapter 1443: Eye attack

The most open area in Cloud Peak was undoubtedly Le Dayuan's crystal weapon testing ground.

Upon hearing the news, Cloud Peak's core members all gathered, and Le Dayuan and Liu Zhengyuan also arrived with a few assistants to join in the excitement. Among them were the Treant and the now two-meter-tall Death King Tree.

Of course, Yangos, sensing Ye Zhongming's return, flew back from the nearby mountains, ending his brief but enjoyable days of bullying the local wildlife.

At this moment, the male and female mutated lifeforms in the mountains wept tears of joy, thanking the heavens.

"Hey, Little Tiger, you're not blind anymore, huh? Those eyes look pretty good. Let Grandpa Dragon take a look."

As soon as Yangos landed, he arrogantly called out to Little Tiger, who was beaming with pride.

This guy's strength had grown significantly after not seeing each other for a while. His dragon scales had become denser, and he had even picked up a strange, mixed-accented Mandarin.

Without waiting for a response, his large dragon eyes shifted to the increasingly delicate Death King Tree. He clicked his tongue and said, "Little Death, you gave up such a good body for what? What's so great about having two legs like these ugly creatures? If you had kept your original form, we could have had a passionate plant-beast romance, a love story for the ages! We could have even had a little dragon, a perfect combination of fire and wood elements!"

"Get lost."

The Death King Tree responded with a single word.

The onlookers found this amusing but didn't say anything. After all, both Yangos and the King of Trees were level eight and among the most powerful at that level. In all of Cloud Peak, only Ye Zhongming, Liu Zhengyuan, and Le Dayuan could suppress them. Even Xia Bai, the leader of the female guards, and Park Xiuying, who possessed the Three-Nosed Elephant, could only speak to them as equals. Others, like Xia Lei, could barely get a word in. These two creatures simply ignored everyone else.

Yangos might tease Little Tiger, but that was because Little Tiger was the type to joke around, even with an evil dragon like him. They were familiar with each other, so the evil dragon tolerated it. Anyone else would have been ignored.

"Let's meet the new friend to avoid any misunderstandings."

Ye Zhongming motioned for Yangos to step aside and signaled Xia Bai to summon Jiu Bao. When everyone saw another level-eight lifeform, they immediately started asking questions. Xiao Min, acting as Xia Bai's spokesperson, explained the situation.

Upon hearing that Xia Bai had acquired another level-eight battle beast with such terrifying abilities, everyone was envious and jealous.

Yangos watched coldly from the side, silently deciding it was best not to provoke this icy woman anymore. He had always felt she was dangerous, and now that she had a level-eight helper, even if it wasn't as strong as him, her overall strength had undoubtedly surpassed his. This didn't even account for the female guards, who, despite their small numbers, were capable of challenging level-eight lifeforms.

Despite his arrogance, Yangos knew better than anyone how to weigh the pros and cons.

"Sister Red, Jiu Bao's abilities were sealed by its previous owner. Although its body has changed since becoming Xia Bai's battle beast, I'm unsure if those abilities have fully recovered. Could you take some time to examine it and see if there are any issues?"

"Oh? Really?" Liu Zhenghong's interest was piqued. She circled the giant earthworm twice before agreeing.

Another living level-eight lifeform to experiment on—Liu Zhenghong was thrilled. She even started wondering if, like regular earthworms, this giant one could split into two independent beings. Would that mean an extra level eight?

Feeling uneasy under Liu Zhenghong's gaze and surrounded by a group of level-eight lifeforms, Jiu Bao curled up into a ball and hid behind Xia Bai.

"Here, this is for you."

Since Le Dayuan and Liu Zhenghong were present, Shengyuan was bound to show up. Ye Zhongming handed the traditional shield to his brother from two lifetimes. Everyone else's eyes turned green with envy.

Purple grade, and a set of two at that!

As Shengyuan held the shield, he immediately felt a surge of immense energy emanating from it. Listening to Ye Zhongming explain the shield's abilities, his blood boiled excitedly.

"Thanks, brother."

Sheng Yuan's gratitude was silent; his lips pressed together as he uttered just two words.

Yangos felt a pang of resentment. Did this mean there was yet another person in Cloud Peak he couldn't mess with?

"Alright, let's test your skills now."

Ye Zhongming turned to the star of the day.

Little Tiger, who had started to calm down after the excitement of seeing Jiu Bao and the purple shields, was once again brimming with enthusiasm.

"I need someone to help me demonstrate my first ability," Xiao Hu said. Immediately, Shengyuan, who had just received the purple shields, stepped forward.

Since it was a skill test, Sheng Yuan's sick defense made him the most suitable candidate.

"Heh, Brother Shengyuan, you'd better be careful."

Little Tiger drew his blue Horse Slashing Blade and watched Sheng Yuan enter combat mode. Everyone around them focused intently.

"Watch me! Here I come!"

Xiao Hu shouted and raised his long blade.

As the blade descended, everyone could tell that this wasn't Little Tiger's full strength—it was much slower than his usual attacks.

It's just a test; he's not going all out, they thought.

But soon, they noticed that Shengyuan wasn't reacting, allowing the blade to fall unimpeded.

What's going on?

However, no one intervened, knowing that Little Tiger would surely control the situation and prevent Sheng Yuan from getting hurt.

When the blade was about to reach Shengyuan's head, the man, as steady as a mountain, raised his shield to block the strike.

"Paralysis?"

Shengyuan lowered his shield and looked at Little Tiger in surprise.

Xiao Hu laughed. "Authority's Gaze!"

This ability wasn't complicated. When Little Tiger activated the skill, it would interfere with the agility of the target he was focusing on.

If the target was facing Little Tiger and their eyes met, the target would suffer the most severe agility interference—complete paralysis. Depending on the difference in mental energy and evolution level between the two, the paralysis could last from 0.1 to 5 seconds.

If the target was facing Little Tiger but not making eye contact, the agility interference would result in slowed movement. Again, depending on the difference, the speed reduction could range from 80% to 10%.

If the target had their back to Little Tiger, they would be inflicted with a badly injured state, increasing the damage they took by 10% to 50% for a certain period. The duration of the state and the extent of the damage increase were still influenced by the difference in evolution level and mental energy.

Chapter 1444: Eye Attack (2)

When Little Tiger and Shengyuan were sparring earlier, Little Tiger shouted, "Watch me, here I go!" This was to ensure their eyes met.

Shengyuan had indeed fallen for it. He looked into Little Tiger's eyes and immediately found his body paralyzed.

However, since their evolution levels were the same and Shengyuan's mental energy was even slightly stronger than Little Tiger's, the paralysis lasted only a split second before disappearing.

Still, everyone understood that if Little Tiger had been fighting seriously, even that brief moment of paralysis would have given him a significant advantage, leaving Shengyuan in a difficult position.

This ability sent a chill through everyone. Once activated, it was too easy to fall victim to it. In a battle between experts, even a moment of paralysis could mean the end of the fight.

Moreover, even if their eyes didn't meet, there was no escape as long as the skill locked onto a target. The target would either be slowed or inflicted with heavy injury, losing the initiative before the fight even began.

"What's the cooldown time?" Ye Zhongming asked.

Little Tiger thought for a moment. After all, Lucy's Tears were unique, and he could fully grasp the abilities they granted.

"If the full-body paralysis is triggered, the cooldown is thirty hours. For the full-body slowdown, it's twenty hours. For the heavy injury effect, it's five hours."

The cooldown times were neither too long nor too short, and the duration varied depending on the effect, which seemed quite reasonable.

The first ability was already so powerful that everyone eagerly anticipated the next one. Ye Zhongming had mentioned that they could grant three abilities when the two tears replaced the same organ.

"Next one. I'll activate it now, but manifesting the effects will take a few days."

Hearing this, everyone, including Ye Zhongming, was puzzled. What did he mean? Was this some kind of ability that took days to take effect?

Little Tiger thought momentarily and decided to activate it before explaining.

He closed his eyes, then suddenly opened them, looking around.

From an outsider's perspective, his eyes were filled with a golden light, making it hard to look directly at him.

"Found it!"

Xiao Hu shouted, and the golden light shot out from his eyes, disappearing from everyone's sight in an instant.

Then, his eyes turned red. If it had been nighttime, he would have looked like a vengeful spirit.

He looked up at the sky, and a section of it was instantly dyed the same red color. Little Tiger drew his Horse Slaying Blade, steadied his breathing, and launched an attack toward that area!

The blade light was blood-red, just like his eyes.

Everyone recognized it—this was Little Tiger's Rage Slasher's "Blood Slash" skill.

This was likely Little Tiger's most powerful attack, and from the looks of it, he wasn't holding back.

But everyone was confused. What was the point of this? Why was he using his strongest skill on an empty sky?

After all, these skills had cooldown times, and everyone treasured them, only using them in battle to ensure they had a powerful trump card in dangerous situations.

However, what surprised everyone was that when the attack landed in the red area, it seemed to freeze in place, stopping mid-air. The entire area remained still for a moment before suddenly disappearing.

Little Tiger's eyes returned to normal, but upon closer inspection, one could see a tiny red dot in the very center of each pupil.

"This skill is called 'Eye of Vengeance,'" Little Tiger explained.

"When I activate this ability, I gain a form of supervision. As long as the target I'm thinking of is within three hundred kilometers, I can locate them and place a revenge mark—a brand on them."

"Step two is ability replication. I can activate and replicate an attack skill within the special area created by this ability—the red zone you just saw."

"Step three is something we can't see right now because when I activate the Eye of Vengeance skill, it only manifests near the marked target."

Hearing this, Liu Zhengong frowned. "I don't get it."

Little Tiger explained, "I decide when to activate the third step. The earliest I can activate it is now, but if I do so today, the marked target will only receive the normal damage of my Blood Slash. However, if I wait until the fifth day to activate it, the target will receive five times the damage of my Blood Slash. In other words, for each additional day I wait, the Eye of Vengeance's attack power increases by one times the original damage."

After saying this, Little Tiger looked at Xia Lei.

"Sister Lei, do you remember Huang Dakui?"

Xia Lei nodded. "Of course. That guy has been robbing the small groups transporting mutated lifeform corpses to us from the east. I sent people to warn him, but he completely ignored me, saying Cloud Peak couldn't control everything."

The ladyboss of Cloud Peak scoffed, clearly not taking Huang Dakui seriously. The guy, relying on his seven-star evolved status, was just trying to make a quick profit and leave, so he didn't care about Cloud Peak's warnings.

Of course, he didn't dare get too close to Cloud Peak. He could ignore the warnings because he planned to rob a few times and leave. Huang Dakui wouldn't have the guts to try and challenge Cloud Peak.

"When I activated the mark earlier, I marked this guy. Since he dares to mess with us, he must have some skills. So, I'll wait a few days before activating the Eye of Vengeance and let him taste Blood Slash!"

Little Tiger grew more excited as he spoke. "I wonder what he'll think when he suddenly sees this attack appear out of nowhere. Should I activate it while he's sleeping? Or during the day? Maybe while he's in the bathroom—that'd be hilarious!"

The people around him weren't laughing. Instead, they were deeply shaken by the implications of this skill.

This was too bizarre and... sneaky!

To silently place a mark on someone and then, days later, unleash a devastating attack out of nowhere...

Forget Huang Dakui—even Ye Zhongming would have a hard time defending against this.

Five times the power of Blood Slash? Ye Zhongming would probably need to use all his defensive skills to withstand it. If the attack came without warning, he might suffer serious injuries in the chaos.

Everyone began to pray for Huang Dakui, hoping he would find peace in the afterlife.

"What's the cooldown time?" Guang Yao asked, his voice dry.

"This one... is a bit long..." Xiao Hu's expression suddenly turned gloomy. "The mark has a maximum range of three hundred kilometers, and the final attack can reach up to five hundred kilometers. Beyond that, the attack weakens with distance and becomes completely ineffective beyond one thousand kilometers. The cooldown time varies depending on how long I wait to activate the attack. The longer I wait, the longer the cooldown. The cooldown is twenty-four hundred hours if I activate it on the same day. The cooldown increases by three hundred hours for each additional day I wait. So, if I wait five days to activate it, I'll have to wait thirty-six hundred hours before I can use this ability again."

Everyone exchanged glances, marveling at the skill.

A five-month cooldown—truly a powerful ability.

"Tell us the third one," Ye Zhongming said, his eyes gleaming. "But before that, go ahead and activate the skill. If Huang Dakui can survive your sudden full-power attack, I'll let him off!"

And so, hundreds of kilometers away, a burly man was split in half by a sudden, blinding light while he was using the bathroom.

## Chapter 1445: One person one army

"Boss, the third one is a bit terrifying."

Hearing Little Tiger say this, Tong Hu and the others were immediately displeased, clamoring, "Could it really be scarier than your second ability?"

Ye Zhongming rubbed the short stubble on his chin and said, "The first two abilities are both related to the eyes. So, is this last one a completely random ability?"

Xiao Hu nodded, then looked around and pointed to a distant area where the rocks were located. These rocks were used to test the power of crystal cannons.

These rocks were a special type of stone formed from the saliva of a unique monster—the Maned Eagle—dripping onto the rocks where it perched. These rocks were extremely hard, typically ranging from green-grade defensive equipment to blue-grade. Cloud Peak used them to test the power of their crystal cannons.

Seeing that Little Tiger was using such rocks to test his skill, everyone grew curious, eager to see what he was about to do.

However, just as Little Tiger was about to start, Ye Zhongming stopped him and asked, "Is the cooldown long?"

"Well... if I don't go all out, it shouldn't be too long."

Ye Zhongming sighed and gestured for him to hold back, just giving everyone a rough idea of the skill.

Little Tiger nodded, adjusted his stance, and then his body temperature began to rise.

Everyone present was at least a seven-star evolved, so their senses were sharp. Seeing Little Tiger's abnormal temperature rise, they knew he was activating his ability and stepped back.

Xiao Hu let out a groan as if in pain or releasing something.

At that moment, everyone witnessed something astonishing.

Behind Little Tiger, rows of... arrow carts? Began to materialize.

It was hard to describe these phantom-like constructs accurately, but given the intricate metal carriages filled with arrow holes and protruding metal arrowheads, calling them arrow carts seemed appropriate.

These arrow carts lined up behind Xiao Hu, and after a quick count, everyone realized there were fifty of them, each with about a hundred arrow holes.

In other words, if these phantom energy arrows were fired, there would be around five thousand of them.

Once the energy arrow carts appeared, Little Tiger's body temperature stopped rising, but he seemed to have turned to stone, standing completely still, not even blinking.

Then, the arrow carts, which looked like missile launchers, all tilted upward, aiming at the rocks in the distance.

Little Tiger suddenly shouted, and the arrow carts fired. Five thousand energy arrows shot out in a neat formation, arcing beautifully through the sky before landing on the rocks.

The energy struck the rocks, creating a dazzling light display like fireworks.

After the attack ended, Little Tiger returned to normal, looking slightly tired but otherwise fine.

Ye Zhongming and the others approached the rocks to inspect the damage. They found the rocks covered in tiny holes, each about one to two centimeters deep.

This proved that the energy arrows could penetrate green-grade defensive equipment. While their effectiveness against blue-grade defenses was reduced, they still posed a threat.

"The coverage area is roughly three hundred square meters," Guang Yao said after jumping onto a large rock and surveying the scene from above.

Everyone turned to Little Tiger, waiting for an explanation.

"Linglan Borrowed Troops."

As soon as the name was mentioned, everyone knew this was another powerful skill.

"Consuming ten, twenty, thirty, forty, or fifty percent of my stamina and mental energy, I can activate levels one through five of Linglan Borrowed Troops."

"Just now, I only used level one, consuming ten percent of my stamina and mental energy," Xiao Hu said, looking at the results satisfactorily.

"Level one summons Light Energy Arrow Carts, which deal light-attribute damage. They're effective against undead or dark-type targets. There are fifty carts."

Xiao Hu began explaining the skill in detail.

"Level two summons Heavy Catapults, dealing purely physical damage. There are thirty of them, ideal for attacking structures."

"Level three summons Skyfire Cannon Arrays, dealing mixed physical and fire-attribute area damage. They're perfect for attacking densely packed formations. There are one hundred cannons."

"Level four summons Limitless Sky Mines, which deploys five hundred floating ice-attribute mines. These can be used to blockade an area."

"Level five summons Thunderclap Mech Generals, which summon one hundred humanoid metal aircraft to unleash thunderstorm attacks on a target area."

Everyone listening was stunned.

Was this even a skill? It sounded more like advanced technology.

Could an evolved's abilities really be like this?

Among those present, Ye Zhongming was the only one who could accept this relatively quickly, as the abilities granted by the Star Spirit had similar traits.

Feeling the weight of everyone's gaze, Little Tiger scratched his head sheepishly.

"Uh, these five levels of Borrowed Troops can all be upgraded using skill upgrade scrolls. After upgrading, they're divided into basic, intermediate, and advanced levels."

"They can be upgraded?!"

Even Xia Lei couldn't hold back. Her eyes were wide as she asked, "What changes after upgrading?"

Facing the formidable big sister of Cloud Peak, Little Tiger didn't dare delay. He quickly explained, "The number of troops increases, their attack power strengthens, and the number of attack waves increases."

"For example, the Light Energy Arrow Carts start with a base number of fifty. After upgrading to basic level, they increase to sixty, the number of attacks increases to two, and the number of arrows per cart goes from one hundred to one hundred and twenty."

"\*#%@&... () &" Many people cursed inwardly.

"Limitations? There must be some, right?"

Ye Zhongming, ever the calm one, asked about the skill's limitations.

"There are limitations," Xiao Hu said more seriously. "For example, each Borrowed Troop ability isn't instant. It requires some preparation time, and I can't move while the troops are attacking. During that time, I need protection."

Everyone recalled how Xiao Hu had looked when activating the skill and understood the danger he was in during that time.

"The cooldown for levels one through five ranges from one to five days. After upgrading, the cooldown increases, going from two to six days for levels one through five. Upgrading further adds another day, and at the highest level, level five Borrowed Troops have an eight-day cooldown."

"Also, these borrowed troops can be damaged by attacks, though they don't last long. Except for the Limitless Sky Mines and Thunderclap Mech Generals, the others probably won't be attacked."

With that, Little Tiger finished explaining his third ability. Everyone had the same thought: this skill must be one of the top-tier abilities, as it turned Little Tiger into a one-man army.