

Apocalypse 1831

Chapter 1831: Helsky's squad

The more complex the rules, the more one could find aspects within them that could be exploited.

For instance, this time's novice battlefield.

Cooperation was allowed, mutual slaughter was allowed, and killing more than three people would also result in one's location being published.

After three days of adaptation, many people began to have many, many ideas, and in the face of these ideas, many, many methods were derived.

Among them, one was hunting red names!

Those with red names had at least taken the lives of three novices; their points certainly would not be low. After all, those capable of killing three existences of the same level were necessarily highly skilled. The speed at which such lives earned points was definitely not too slow.

To some extent, the points gained from killing them were higher than killing many mutated lives or parasites.

Helsky's team saw this point and thus began hunting red names.

"Hey, we've chased this far, delaying over an hour. Is this worth it? I think our points grow quickly when we cooperate to hunt those mutated life parasites. Doing this seems like the gain does not outweigh the loss."

The person called "He" had very distinct European-American features and was a very handsome human from an ancient family in Western Europe.

He had once been a spokesperson for a major race among the universe's races, and the relationship was very good at that. So after arriving in the heavens, Helsky not only received much care but also learned many little-known things.

For example, he knew that this time, the number of people coming from Earth exceeded twenty, the least among the major novice source planets. Even so, the majority had spokespeople who contributed effort; otherwise, there were only three or four people who relied solely on themselves to evolve to level nine and obtain an entry ticket.

He, Helsky, admired such people; at least he himself did not belong to this category.

But this did not mean he feared such people. On the contrary, when necessary, he found it very interesting to eliminate such people.

"Who told you to be better than me but not have higher emotional and intellectual intelligence?" Helsky often thought this way.

Just like now, he made a compelling person from Earth his hunting target: the strongest from the China region, Ye Zhongming.

Under normal circumstances, he would not actively provoke this guy, but now it was different because this number one from the China region had a red name, and coincidentally, he was not far from their area of activity.

"The gain does not outweigh the loss? No. Look at how many points Ye Zhongming has now? Killing him would yield over twenty points at once. Aren't you tempted? We worked hard killing for two days; how many did you get? How many did everyone get?"

The fellow Earthling, who appeared to be of mixed race, frowned and said, "What you say is true, but that's also because we have too few people gathered now. When there are more people and more races, our points bonus will naturally be higher, and the points will quickly rise."

Helsky checked the recorder and, finding no changes, replied, "Kevin, tell me, is the foundation important?"

The mixed-race Kevin was somewhat unhappy but still answered, "Of course it's important. A good start is half the success."

"Correct!" Helsky snapped his fingers.

"Then tell me, what is a good start? Is our current average of fifty points a good start? Being ranked in the four digits a good start? We are friendly with everyone, persuading everyone we meet with earnest advice and smiling faces to join us, and so far we have less than ten people—is that good?"

The others listening looked slightly uncomfortable; they were those lives who had believed Helsky.

Kevin pressed his lips together and said nothing.

"No, even though we have worked hard, our points still haven't risen. This is not what we want. If this continues, after the seven small cycles end, even if we don't die, our ranking will fall behind. What meaning is there in that?"

"Then what do you suggest we do? Hunt red names? What if we become red names? Get counter-hunted? Also, these red names are all strong. Isn't the risk very high for us to do this?"

Another life also had objections to this decision.

Helsky patiently explained to them, though in his heart he was already quite displeased. How did these people reach the top evolution level? Could they not understand such a simple matter?

"The risk is high, but that's for us individually. Together, dealing with one red name—you're not lacking confidence, are you?"

"Listen, there's still some time before the first small cycle ends, about ten-plus hours. In this area, there are five red names. As long as we hunt them all, I've calculated we will gain over two hundred thirty points. Minimum! This already exceeds our previous efficiency, doesn't it?"

The few of them had previously averaged close to two hundred total points per day. If they could really gain these two hundred thirty points in over ten hours, that would indeed be very good.

"And don't forget, after over two days of hunting, the density of mutated lives and parasites here has decreased. Our efficiency in this final period will drop significantly. One decreases while the other increases—which do you think is more suitable?"

Hearing this, everyone really felt it made sense.

"What I mean by a good start is that by the end of the first small cycle, we obtain as many high points as possible. Then, when we return to camp, we can obtain better things. When the next cycle begins, our points earning speed can be faster."

"As for us becoming red names, here's what I think: we must avoid becoming red names. That is, each person can kill at most two people. We take turns; the seven of us can kill at most fourteen people. And I plan to use this quota fully. In the future, for every life that joins our team, this quota increases by two."

Helsky's words made everyone around fall silent.

"You know, when I studied in the China region, I learned a phrase: 'Grasp both, and grasp both firmly!' We must earn points by hunting mutated lives and also by killing red names. This is the best method for gaining points."

"This is also the opportunity the rules leave for us!"

Helsky looked around and found that no one showed opposition; clearly, he had convinced them all. He smiled confidently.

"Alright, let's kill this number one from the China region, who has average points among red names and should be relatively average in strength. He is right ahead."

The seven people made slight adjustments to their direction and headed toward the place Helsky indicated.

Chapter 1832: How did he do it

Helsky believed that, under the premise of controlling himself to avoid becoming a red name, killing two novices to obtain their points was the most cost-effective method.

That is to say, everyone should have two kill quotas.

The first one, he planned to use during the first small cycle. The second one... would have to wait until the final cycle. Killing people at that time would yield a very, very large number of points.

It was just unknown whether, while studying in the China region, besides learning "grasp both, and grasp both firmly," he had also heard another phrase: "The ideal is full, but the reality is bony."

He led his seven-person team and, as anticipated, encountered the number one from the China region, who could only hang his arm.

Helsky's eyes nearly turned red; looking at Ye Zhongming was like looking at a pile of points.

But the next second, he was somewhat surprised.

Helsky was certain that this person had seen their seven individuals filled with killing intent, yet he still ran towards them. His speed was, in a way, actually quite fast, but far from the limit of this evolution level.

At a certain moment, Ye Zhongming turned a corner and threw a punch towards Helsky and the others. This punch struck the ground, splashing countless mud, dead branches, and rotten leaves, blotting out the sky and sun. Caught off guard, Helsky and the others could only slow down and did not dare to charge headlong.

Clearly, this number one from the China region opposite them had aimed at the ground, not them. It was obviously intentional. Without guessing his purpose beforehand, no one dared to advance rashly.

At the same time, they heard the footsteps of some other people, coming extremely fast, arriving nearby in an instant. Helsky, who understood Chinese, also heard a sentence.

"If you don't come soon, I'm going to be killed."

Helsky was stunned for a moment. What did that mean? Did he have help behind him?

Meanwhile, the Hawkins couple, who were chasing from behind, were also stunned. What did that mean? Did he have help ahead?

Next, both sides discovered at the same time that Ye Zhongming had stopped.

Helsky: Ambushed?

Hawkins: He really has help?

A smile appeared at the corner of Ye Zhongming's mouth. Then, his still-good arm raised upwards. For some reason, his face, which had been flushed all along, seemed to release something at this moment.

With a boom, a huge shadow appeared above Ye Zhongming's head, startling both Hawkins and Helsky, who quickly halted their forward momentum.

It was an enormous black shadow very similar to Ye Zhongming, so huge it was about a dozen stories tall. The only odd thing was that the shadow had no arms.

Before they could react, this black shadow suddenly exploded.

Dense, almost impenetrable black mist instantly filled a large area of the forest, enveloping both groups within it.

The black mist was too fast; so fast that each person had probably only moved one step before they were immediately wrapped within it. Everyone instinctively held their breath and then moved closer together.

Clear footsteps sounded, and everyone felt as though they were coming towards them.

After that, in the darkness, light flashed, and everyone still felt it was coming towards them.

These lives, which had almost gathered together, instinctively scattered quite a bit.

Ah!

A shout was heard, along with the sound of weapons colliding. Everyone became tense. And this tension reached its peak when one of them let out a scream.

"Apprehension" was the most apt phrase to describe the current situation.

Helsky suddenly turned his head. The special weapon arm blades in his hands buzzed as they extended, slashing towards the side where the sound of wind had passed, but the weapon returned without success.

He ran a few steps following the sound and struck out again when he felt he could almost hit, but still missed.

Yaka called out towards the front but received no response. She then had no more reservations, and the long-handled sword in her hand whistled down.

First came the vibrating sensation of weapons colliding, followed by the familiar feeling of cutting into a living body.

After that came the second scream.

These seemed to act like a signal; battles broke out everywhere. In the pitch-black mist, only the occasional flashes of skills and weapons could be seen.

About two minutes later, Aimusi, who had been under Hawkin's protection and had almost recovered, suddenly relit that kind of light that lingered around her body. The wings on her equipment fully spread open, maximizing the range of the light's illumination.

The surrounding black mist was dispelled somewhat. With Aimusi at the center, a visible area about half the size of a basketball court formed.

"What the hell is this?!"

Hawkins exclaimed in shock and dismay. He was very clear about his wife's ability; it could completely dispel almost all mist, but now it had only pushed the black mist a short distance away. What was going on?

"Illusions! It's Ye Zhongming."

Aimusi's eyes were sharp as she scanned her surroundings.

Just now, she had fallen into an illusion, as if Adam had come back to life, and the mother and son were happily playing in an amusement park. Even though she realized something immediately, she was unwilling to wake up, resulting in a two-minute state of stunned silence.

The light here attracted the lives around. Yaka was the first to approach. After coming in, Hawkins saw the blood staining her long knife, and on her shoulder was actually stuck a bone dagger!

The second to approach was Helsky. When he saw the Hawkins couple, he froze, neither greeting them nor launching an attack, just standing warily at the edge of the black mist and the bright light.

"We came to pursue and kill Ye Zhongming."

Aimusi looked at Helsky for a while, then suddenly said in English.

Helsky's eyes widened slightly, then he grinned and suddenly shouted into the black mist.

What he shouted was—Stop, we've been tricked.

Hawkins and Aimusi, seeing this, also called out Wade's name at the same time, telling him to come and regroup.

Another two minutes passed, and everyone gathered here. Combined, there should have been eleven people, but only eight came.

Hawkins, Aimusi, Yaka, and Wade all came. Besides Yaka, Wade was also injured; he had only one eye left.

"It was Ye Zhongming; he wanted to kill me, but he didn't succeed."

Wade explained and even smiled, as if the one who had become disabled was not himself.

Helsky's side was much worse off; only four remained. The other three—no one knew if they were dead or just hadn't come.

The black mist gradually dispersed over time and completely vanished amid Helsky and the others' calls for their companions.

On the ground, three corpses appeared.

One was chopped in half, one had its throat and most of its head slit open, and the other had a deeply sunken chest, with all its internal organs shattered.

Yaka glanced at the corpse that was chopped in half and shrugged.

Helsky looked embarrassed at the companion with the slit throat.

Aimusi squatted in front of the corpse with the sunken chest and reached out to touch the wound.

When she raised her head again, her face was full of bewilderment.

"How did he do it?"

Chapter 1833: Systemic victory

Being able to accomplish all of this, Ye Zhongming had to thank the Netherrealm Star Domain person.

When this energy-based life form was killed, a slight accident occurred.

Ye Zhongming's body and the other party became connected through contact.

Ye Zhongming began to absorb the energy of the Netherrealm Star Domain person frantically.

From the air to landing, this process took only a few seconds, but the energy body was nearly half absorbed. Within the next half minute, it was completely absorbed by Ye Zhongming... absorbed into nothing.

Originally, after landing, Ye Zhongming could actually control the absorption speed. But at that time, the situation was such that pursuers could arrive at any moment, so he gritted his teeth and did not control the absorption of this energy.

He chose to follow his heart.

Since his body felt this energy was useful and needed it, he let it absorb. As for what effect it would have after being absorbed into his body, or whether it could be digested, Ye Zhongming did not consider.

Later, he clearly felt that his body was filled with this energy, as if it would explode at any moment. Ye Zhongming gritted his teeth and persevered until the end.

Recalling it afterwards, he knew this approach was too risky. If his body had any problems because of this energy, even if it didn't explode, just being immobilized or slowed down, he would have been immediately caught by the enemy.

Fortunately, his control over his body was unaffected. After killing the Netherrealm Star Domain person, he quickly left the scene.

But the subsequent situation was not very good.

Before dying, the Netherrealm Star Domain person shouted a sentence: 'You are a Blue Soul Gatherer, impossible, your kind has already perished.'

Although this sentence did not provide a complete and clear answer, it allowed Ye Zhongming to glean a lot of information from it.

For example, the word "Blue" very likely referred to the Blue Secret Realm. In the records of the universe's races, it should be a planet and race that had already perished.

The reason he could easily absorb the energy from this Netherrealm Star Domain person was very likely because he practiced the Thousand Soul Refining Art and had now reached the top level.

This ability came from the Posthumous people, but their previous situation in the Blue Secret Realm was too dire. They had been driven into the mountain depths, survival was a problem, and preserving historical materials was out of the question. They focused more on passing down various abilities rather than on history that couldn't be used as combat power.

At the very least, Ye Zhongming had never heard the Posthumous people say they were called Blue Soul Gatherers.

Of course, it was also possible that those who knew hadn't told him.

Regardless, Ye Zhongming absorbed all the energy from the Netherrealm Star Domain person's body, sucking the guy dry. This energy was chaotic within his body and could explode at any moment.

Having no other choice, Ye Zhongming could only operate the Thousand Soul Refining Art.

The effect was there, and it was very good. Through the guidance of the Thousand Soul Refining Art, a large amount of energy was absorbed. Not only could it be converted into mental power, but his body also benefited greatly. Even the worsening injuries on his left arm caused by Wade improved significantly. As for the two deep cuts and bone fractures, they healed in a short time and would be completely recovered in another day.

Mental power was originally Ye Zhongming's strength. After evolving to level nine, it underwent another qualitative improvement. He himself couldn't accurately say how much mental power he had. But after absorbing the energy of the Netherrealm Star Domain person, he still felt substantial progress in this aspect.

Although the physical improvement wasn't as much as the mental power, for Ye Zhongming, whose base was already large, it was still enough to be called a surprise. The Beautiful Heavenly Body, along with numerous previous and current enhancements, transformed the Cloud Peak King himself into a human-shaped golden equipment, one that possessed both attack and defense capabilities.

Even Ye Zhongming himself felt that with a little more strengthening, it would be almost equivalent to having a built-in purple equipment. Otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to escape the relentless pursuit of four experts of the same level with only one arm.

The instantaneous increase in strength was one reason for Ye Zhongming's attack.

Another reason was that after absorbing most of this energy, a small part remained that could not be absorbed.

This might not be entirely accurate. This part could actually be absorbed, but due to the body's limit, it could not be integrated temporarily. Under other circumstances, if this energy could enter the body gradually, there would be no problem with its absorption.

The excess energy made Ye Zhongming very uncomfortable. Even if it wouldn't harm his body, just holding it in was a torment.

He needed a way to release it.

Ye Zhongming knew the method, which was using some skills or the like. However, he didn't want to waste this energy for nothing, so a second reason for launching the attack arose.

To be honest, Ye Zhongming was also very surprised. He originally wanted to use this excess energy to summon as many Double Poison Shadows as possible, then exploding them all to form a black mist area. He would then sneak attack, each death was a win, and take advantage of the chaos to leave.

The timing and location of Ye Zhongming's attack were very good because the location of red names is updated every hour. The update for this hour had just passed. If Ye Zhongming left at this time, as long as he escaped the sensory range of the pursuers, he would have over half an hour of escape time. To know his location, one would have to wait for the next hour's update.

And this place was already at the edge of the Vengeful Mist Rainforest. On the other side was the Sea of Ten Thousand Islands, Ye Zhongming's main battlefield, where he possessed the Sea King's Crown. Once he entered, they would have no hope of chasing him. Over half an hour was enough for Ye Zhongming to cross the distance between the two areas.

Unexpectedly, when Ye Zhongming launched the attack, a huge black shadow appeared above his head. Because it was too large, he didn't control it very well, so it didn't manifest arms. After it exploded, because he had put too much mental power into it, it also created illusions for these people. Those with deep-seated obsessions were affected more, such as Aimusi. Those with lighter obsessions were affected less, like the others.

Ye Zhongming naturally wouldn't let such an opportunity slip. He targeted the four-person team of the Hawkins couple. Only by injuring or killing them could the Cloud Peak King have an easier time.

However, both the sneak attack on the little girl Naka and the sneak attack on Wade ended in failure; he could only injure them. As for the person from the other team who was killed, he was completely blocking Ye Zhongming's escape route. Still in an illusion, he put up little resistance and was killed with one punch.

Over half an hour later, just as the red name location was about to refresh, Ye Zhongming rushed to the edge of the rainforest. The ground in front of him was no longer moss and shrubs but snow-white fine sand. Further ahead was light blue seawater. He let out a cry, his body instantly crossed this distance, and he leaped into the cool seawater.

The pursuit by the two teams against him, at least for now, has failed.

Chapter 1834: Where does your confidence come from

"The first phase of the trial will end in one hour. All surviving novices, please choose an open terrain around you and wait during the final five minutes. Novice killing is temporarily suspended. Those who do not follow the orders will be executed."

A message appeared in the eyes of every surviving novice through their recorder.

Seeing this message, many breathed a sigh of relief, while others sighed in regret, some remained indifferent, and still others faced it coldly.

Regardless of the state, it meant the three-day first phase of the trial had ended, and they could take a break.

"The interval between the two trial phases is twelve hours. Novices, please use the time for purchases and exchanges while also paying attention to rest and treatment. Twelve hours later, the second phase of the trial will begin immediately."

"Novices ranked last ten on the points ranking list, please use the time to obtain points. After this phase ends, the number of eliminations for the last place is ten!"

"Novices ranked in the top one hundred on the points ranking list. Please note: if you can maintain your ranking until the end of the first phase, you will receive an additional two percent points reward. Novices ranked 101st to 1000th on the points ranking list. Please note: if you can maintain your ranking until the end of the first phase, you will receive an additional one percent points reward."

"The rewards will be distributed in real-time after the end."

On a small island, Hawkins and his wife and others, looking somewhat disheveled, did not show any sign of relaxation. They just sat on the ground somewhat dejectedly, staring blankly at the seawater in front of them.

Even though they had lost Ye Zhongming earlier, they still came to the Sea of Ten Thousand Islands after the location was updated with a boom.

Although they could all swim, they were only at the normal top evolved level, far less adapted to this place than Ye Zhongming, who was like a swimming fish.

They had to maintain their rankings without falling behind, killing mutated lives and parasites to earn points while tracking Ye Zhongming.

Once they were too far from Ye Zhongming and unable to lock onto his perception, catching up again would be extremely difficult.

Moreover, Ye Zhongming was very slippery. Every time his location was updated, he would definitely move with full force, thwarting the pursuers' goal of finding him.

From the time they lost Ye Zhongming's location until now, Hawkins and the others had not caught a glimpse of Ye Zhongming again.

Looking at Aimusi's current highest ranking of just over six thousand, everyone felt a sense of powerlessness.

There was no help for it; not every island had mutated lives or parasites. Often, they would arrive at an island to find nothing, or only one mutated life. After killing it, they would get at most a dozen points, at least a few points.

Without much aquatic ability, their points increase was very slow. Although they had improved quite a bit compared to before, by the end of the first phase, they were all around six to seven thousand, which was far from their expectations.

If it were just like this, it would be fine, but look at Ye Zhongming's ranking: not only did it not fall, it rose significantly. An hour ago, it officially entered the top thousand! His points had reached one hundred seventy-seven.

In this ocean, his points were actually increasing faster than before. One must know that he had a broken arm.

"Let's go. I feel there's a powerful enough mutated life ahead. Killing it, plus the time to get there, I estimate the time will be about right. Don't lose heart; there are still six small phases left."

Hawkins clapped his hands, encouraging everyone.

The others stood up and jumped into the water, swimming towards another island.

.....

Ye Zhongming quietly floated on the sea surface, eyes closed, as if integrated with the sea.

Thanks to the Sea King's Mark ability in the Sea King's Crown, he could treat injuries in seawater. This was an all-around treatment, effective for all injuries except for Naka's curse.

Only the treatment speed was slow. So far, the other injuries on his left arm had healed; only the several malicious, hole-like wounds made by Wade had not fully recovered. But the toxins had been completely cleared, and the wounds were healing. Now this arm could move normally, but it just couldn't withstand intense combat yet.

In the ocean, all of Ye Zhongming's abilities received bonuses. The marine life here wasn't as abundant as in Earth's oceans, but it wasn't little either. Ye Zhongming didn't even go onto islands; he hunted here. Perhaps because there were too few novices skilled in underwater combat, in half a day, Ye Zhongming didn't find anyone snatching monsters.

Of course, due to his injuries, Ye Zhongming avoided powerful auras or targets that were too numerous; otherwise, his points would be even higher.

When the specified time arrived, he boarded a small island to wait for pickup—a small island where Hawkins and the others were.

When enemies met, they were really eyeing each other, but the rules prevented them from attacking each other.

Ye Zhongming stood in front of them, making the four of them tremble with anger.

A spaceship came to pick them up and returned them to the camp in just a little while. Before parting ways, Aimusi once again told Ye Zhongming in a sharp voice that she would definitely kill him.

Ye Zhongming nodded. Although he couldn't hear, he knew what the woman was saying. He calmly replied "Got it" and entered the camp.

He first went to the Star-Eye Clan's dirty tent to find Jie Kui, and, surprisingly, also saw Shi Kangbu.

"Where's Bu Lanuo?"

Although he asked, Ye Zhongming basically knew the answer.

"Killed." Shi Kangbu was in a sorry state, with many wounds on his body, though none fatal.

Ye Zhongming didn't ask further. He and Jie Kui walked towards the already bustling free market; they wanted to see if there were any wound medicines for sale, as the official store's were too expensive.

After looking around, two places were surrounded by many novices. Ye Zhongming and the other couldn't squeeze in, but Jie Kui listened for a bit and gestured to Ye Zhongming that both places were selling medicine.

One crowd soon dispersed. Ye Zhongming and the others saw that it was because the potions were sold out. This person probably had a lot of stock, priced high, only ten percent cheaper than the store. But saving a little was saving a little, so everyone still paid up. There was no choice; if you didn't buy, others would.

The other place used an auction method, which took a little time but still sold out quickly.

Jie Kui, disappointed, was about to pull Ye Zhongming away. They had to go to the store; only after healing their injuries could they look for useful items based on their remaining points.

But Ye Zhongming didn't move.

Jie Kui knew he couldn't hear, so he just looked at him with a puzzled expression.

Ye Zhongming walked up to the medicine seller, who was packing up to leave, and said, "Beauty, how about following us from now on?"

Jie Kui, beside him, almost fell over. The look he gave Ye Zhongming clearly said, "What confidence do you have?!"

"Big brother, where did you get this confidence?!"

Chapter 1835: Persuade

Jie Kui didn't casually said what he did.

This female life form, after selling many potions, had obtained nearly one hundred and fifty points. Even if she had not gained a single point before, she could still rank within the top two thousand. And was it possible she had gained no points at all? Obviously not. Even if she only had seventy points—the score of the tenth from last to be eliminated—her total points now would still reach over two hundred twenty, more than fifty points higher than Ye Zhongming's. This score was already within the top five hundred.

You said "follow me" to someone with more points and a higher ranking than you? This level of confidence or shamelessness was simply outrageous.

This female life form had long, blue hair and exquisite, beautiful features. Even with a red symbol mark on her forehead, she still very much conformed to human aesthetic standards.

Only her torso was a bit unconventional.

The metal armor was designed very femininely, covering only the chest and the important areas below the waist. Yes, this lingerie-like design was very exquisite and highlighted the female life form's figure was close to perfect. The sheer fabric naturally hanging from the bra and pants added a touch of allure and seduction.

The unconventional part was that her wrists, ankles, and thighs all had a circle of exquisite blue patterns, almost the same color as her hair.

The female life form laughed upon hearing Ye Zhongming's words, then shook her head. Her attitude could be described as very good. She didn't answer, just continued packing her things.

"Your points are very high, but they are basically all from selling medicine, right? Before, you only had ninety points, ranking at the bottom."

Ye Zhongming continued speaking. Upon hearing this, Jie Kui had already put away his previous expression and was looking thoughtfully at this impossibly beautiful female life form.

The female life form paused her packing, then raised her head and looked at Ye Zhongming very seriously.

"It's not strange to guess that. Currently, everyone's points are in a relatively stable state. Leaving aside those whose points decreased from buying things, those who increased did so by selling things. Only two people could increase by such a large amount at once. By paying just a little attention to the changes in points, one can easily tell who is who. So..."

Ye Zhongming shrugged and didn't continue.

The female life form showed an appreciative look and spoke in her very soft voice: "Well, everything you said is correct. But is this the reason you want me to follow you?"

Ye Zhongming didn't understand lip reading, but he was, after all, a top-level evolved, and this female life form's features were similar to humans'. From the shape of her mouth, the Cloud Peak King could understand most of the meaning. Coupled with Jie Kui's assistance on the side, communication wasn't too difficult.

"Of course not. Saying all this is just to let you know I'm not acting on impulse or recklessly."

Ye Zhongming gestured and continued: "According to the rules of the novice battlefield, there are two ways to get more points faster: one is cooperation, using the bonus rules; the other is killing people, using the plunder rules."

"The first method, cooperation, the more people the better, the more races the better. One can imagine that in the later stages of the novice battlefield, those powerful, group-living prey on the list will gradually become targets. Every hunt might produce thousands or even tens of thousands of points. Those participating will gain many dividends."

"Look around. The novices are communicating with each other very, very much. They are all preparing to take this path. Perhaps in not too long, maybe after one or two more cycles, large-scale temporary novice teams will form on a large scale."

The female evolved looked at Ye Zhongming with great interest. Even though she always gave people a feeling of being calm, there was still a bit of teasing.

Ye Zhongming didn't care and continued: "The second method, using the plunder rules to kill people—this is already happening now. To be honest, the risk is very high. In the early stages, the cost-effectiveness isn't high."

Hearing this, Jie Kui rolled his eyes.

Big brother, you've already killed four.

"The truly terrifying part is in the later stages. By then, everyone will have a lot of points. Just killing one person could equal a day or even several days of hard work for others. Taking shortcuts is the nature of all life. The last two cycles will be very crazy."

Ye Zhongming stated his judgment of the situation.

Regarding this point, both Jie Kui, who was doing nothing on the side, and this female life form, who had not been very impressed with Ye Zhongming, agreed.

They were all nine-star evolved. Beings who could reach this level could no longer be described merely as ruthless; they were existences on another level. For interests, they could become heroes, they could become overlords, or they could even become cowards.

For points, they could unite to form the most solid team, fighting for one another. For points, they could also show no mercy and wield the butcher's knife against those around them, just to go higher and farther.

"What you said is correct, but does it have anything to do with me?"

The female life form chuckled. If Ye Zhongming couldn't say anything substantial, she was prepared to leave.

"Of course it does."

This time, the female life form's words were shorter, and Ye Zhongming read them.

"To gain points, what kind of person yields a lot when killed? Naturally, someone like you with high points."

"But I will spend them. I'm prepared to spend them right now."

"But you won't spend them all. You always need to keep some to get up the leaderboard. And if I am guessing correctly, your points will become more and more. Sooner or later, you will become a fat piece of meat in everyone's eyes."

If Jie Kui didn't know that Ye Zhongming really couldn't hear, he wouldn't believe this guy was deaf.

"What do you mean?" The female life form showed impatience and displeasure for the first time.

"What I mean is..." Ye Zhongming took a deep breath. He knew the next words were key. If he moved this life form, he would naturally gain an ideal teammate. But if not, his subsequent trials would be much more difficult.

"A person like you, who is not suited for combat, needs someone skilled in combat as a partner. Moreover, I can provide you with the necessary help, for example... materials from aquatic life. For example... the necessary plants required for medicine making."

This sentence made the female life form lose her composure. Even though she quickly adjusted, it indirectly confirmed that Ye Zhongming had guessed correctly.

He struck while the iron was hot: "You are a medicine-making job with weak combat ability. You are also a job that must use materials from aquatic life to make medicine, yet you also need certain herbal plants from the land. Your way of obtaining points isn't the usual hunting and killing, but rather hunting relatively weak marine life to obtain necessary materials, then gathering ground plants to process into medicine, and selling them to obtain points!"

"And I can help you hunt high-level marine life, help you obtain vegetation materials that are difficult to find on the ground, allowing you to refine higher-level potions, sell them for more points, and additionally... protect your safety until the novice battlefield ends."