

Apocalypse 1846

Chapter 1846: First stage

He joined Ye Zhongming's team.

Ye Zhongming was very satisfied with this.

No matter what, it meant he had achieved his goal. This alone was enough for him to spare Helsky and that follower of his, no longer viewing them as point storage devices.

Thus, as of now, the team suddenly had six people, plus one Qiuqiu.

Ye Zhongming, Jie Kui, and Shi Kangbu naturally went without saying. After He joined, she was quite frank. Although not extremely detailed, she gave a relatively comprehensive introduction to her situation.

Even so, it made Ye Zhongming and the others exclaim in amazement.

The Changxu Water Tribe were masters of medicine—this was common knowledge. They were skilled in making any type of medicine, especially healing potions, to an extent that would make dedicated job users jealous.

Besides that, through this battle, they learned that those innate holy sigils that appeared on their bodies possessed decent offensive capabilities.

And through He's own account, they also learned that the Changxu Water Tribe had a racial talent: Transform into Water, turning the entire person into a cluster of water droplets.

This almost seemed to defy the laws of the universe!

This was Ye Zhongming's thought upon hearing it.

However, it also had drawbacks. For example, these water droplets couldn't disperse too far. In places without water, abnormalities could be spotted at a glance. Also, the duration couldn't be too long—at most about fifteen minutes. Moreover, the movement speed in the water form couldn't be too fast, far slower than in human form.

Additionally, He had another ability: Semi-Water Form. This was what everyone found most incredible and exciting.

Semi-Water Form didn't mean half the body turned to water and half remained human. Instead, when He activated this ability, her hands would turn into a water-like state. This water state could, when needed, transform into up to seven water chains, connecting to seven objects or life forms, forming a water shield around them that provided all-around defense.

Yes, all-around defense—whether elemental attacks, energy attacks, physical attacks, mental shocks, etc., it defended against everything.

The defensive effect was related to the energy He herself injected and the number of water chains. But according to her, if there were the maximum seven water chains, the defensive capability would be equivalent to golden defensive equipment. The fewer the water chains, the higher the defense. With only one water chain, the defense was highest. According to He's estimate, it was definitely better than

purple equipment's defense. Actually, with three water chains, it was equivalent to purple equipment. As for how much higher, she wasn't too sure either. After all, at least up to now, no one had seen true seven-colored equipment, so naturally, they didn't know what rainbow equipment's defense was like.

But this was enough to make everyone admire He's ability immensely.

"Not every Changxu Water Tribe member has this ability, right?" Helsky asked with a surprised expression.

He completely ignored him.

There was no help for it. Although Helsky had broken through He's psychological defenses with his own methods, making her agree to join the team, He held a grudge against him and paid him no attention.

"Innate talent?"

Ye Zhongming stepped in to smooth things over and also voiced his guess.

He then nodded.

"If every tribesmember could create water chains, our race wouldn't have fallen to its current state. Without particularly strong combat abilities, at least we could be good support combatants and always

stand our ground. But it just so happened that only tribesmembers with seven or more holy sigils could possess this ability."

Ye Zhongming nodded. Earlier, He had mentioned that she possessed ten holy sigils, ranking third in her entire race's history. The top two both had eleven and had led the Changxu Water Tribe through periods of glory. Although He was exceptionally talented and outstanding, she was still slightly inferior compared to her two ancestors.

"I also know the water chain ability is very strong, but when activated, I cannot move. The length of each water chain cannot exceed five meters, or it will break."

The others listened attentively because this information could likely determine their future lives.

Naturally, He was the most important person after joining the team. Helsky was second. Ye Zhongming mainly valued his accurate judgment of situations, his grasp of people's minds, and his willingness to go all out at critical moments.

He was almost a natural assistant candidate who could help Ye Zhongming handle many matters.

In terms of closeness, Jie Kui was naturally the highest, but Jie Kui wasn't suited to be a comprehensive assistant; he was better as a vanguard. At the same time, his trust in Ye Zhongming could, to some extent, check and supervise Helsky.

The other person was called Yang Tuo, a commissioned warrior belonging to a medium-sized race.

He had previously questioned Ye Zhongming about killing people. The Cloud Peak King had thought it was just an act, but upon interaction, he found that this guy was truly an idealist who highly valued teamwork, cooperation, mutual benefit, struggle, etc.— practically a model of morality.

It's just that this model wasn't entirely pure. After all, Ye Zhongming had killed two people from his team. Since it was a fait accompli, he didn't say much either.

Sure enough, there were no absolutely good people.

With the team formed and suddenly having seven combat-ready members, Ye Zhongming's ambition surged. He began to think about the next target and soon decided on one.

"Spiral Fish?"

Helsky frowned, hesitating to speak.

Clearly, when he heard Ye Zhongming propose the target, he disagreed. But because he had just joined the team and was kind of an 'add-on,' he felt too embarrassed to voice opposition, weighed down by concerns.

Ye Zhongming didn't mind.

He had ambition, but it wasn't arrogance; it was based on the strength the team possessed.

"This parasite ranks fiftieth on the list. It's clearly recorded that it also brings two to three offspring. Their combat strength is high, but the points are also plentiful. Just exterminating them, considering our different races and the point bonus for numbers, could yield over three hundred points, averaging more than fifty points per person. Very worth it."

"Also, on the Spiral Fish's body, there is a material He said is necessary: a fish glue for making powerful recovery potions."

It must be said, wealth moves hearts. The moment Ye Zhongming mentioned the points, everyone was immediately tempted.

"Helsky and Yang Tuo are excellent frontline warriors. Jie Kui and Shi Kangbu are very suited for surprise attacks. Adding me and Qiuqiu, and He's support, we can actually challenge any mutated life form or parasite in any area, as long as they aren't the group-living type."

Ye Zhongming looked at everyone as he spoke: " There's one more point, which is also one of the reasons for my confidence, and that is..."

As he spoke, the Cloud Peak King took out some materials and handed them to He.

"This!"

He herself hadn't expected that most of the materials she mentioned, this person had already found!

"In that case, I can actually make some medicine!" He said, her eyes shining.

Chapter 1847: Three and four turn

Ye Zhongming and the others watched with great interest even though this was already the second type of medicine He was refining.

Back on Earth, Cloud Peak did have alchemist job users and even potion makers, etc., but none had such a miraculous manufacturing process.

The jobs created by wheel technology required certain things for production. Even special jobs with prefixes, like Ye Zhongming's own Glory Smith, who seemed to be able to work without a blueprint, still required materials.

As for the process... There was some light, some morphological changes, but that was all.

But He's was truly different. Although she also needed a carrier, her carrier was the holy sigils on her body!

"Because our tribespeople's holy sigils are bestowed by heaven, after exploration by predecessors over countless years, we have developed quite perfect ability forms. The abilities of the holy sigils are far from being as simple as just for attack. In fact, one could say attack is the lowest-end and most energy-wasting method. Their true abilities are not like this."

He had explained this to Ye Zhongming and the others earlier. It was clear that once they let go of their reservations, the people of the Changxu Water Tribe handled matters very gently and didn't have many other ulterior motives. To put it sentimentally, they were very pure.

This precisely illustrated from another aspect why this race couldn't survive in the universe. First, they had things that made others coveted, but they could not protect themselves. Second, their minds were uncomplicated and straightforward. So if they weren't eliminated, who would be?

"The main ability of the holy sigils is to refine medicine. Each holy sigil has its own special ability, which injects the corresponding ability or energy into the medicine. The effect and grade of the medicine mainly depended on how many holy sigils have refined it. Of course, each pill can only be made by one tribesperson. That is to say, the number of holy sigils the maker has directly affects the quality of the medicine."

"The two most powerful ancestors of our tribe had eleven holy sigils. The highest-grade medicines they refined underwent refinement by eleven holy sigils. The effects were simply... how to put it... Four types of medicine, each with effects like divine objects."

When He said this, her eyes were full of nostalgia and admiration.

She herself had ten holy sigils, so the highest-grade medicine she could make was refined ten times. Because Ye Zhongming had read certain novels on Earth, he used the term 'ten-turn' to describe it.

According to He, there were ten types of ten-turn medicine. Over seven of them required materials that were quite rare and hard to find. Ordinary materials couldn't withstand ten-turn refinement by holy sigils and would simply be destroyed.

The remaining three types had materials that were only relatively easier to find, but gathering them was still very difficult. Ye Zhongming targeted the Spiral Fish because the fish glue was also a material required for one of the ten-turn medicines.

"Today, I can only make two types of medicine. One is a three-turn medicine, and the other is slightly more difficult, a four-turn medicine."

After He finished saying this, she entered the refining state.

The place chosen for refining was halfway up a mountain on an island. There was a depression that seemed to have been created by something smashing into it, forming a natural, sheltered harbor pit about ten meters deep and fifty meters in diameter. The edges of the pit were covered with trees, which well concealed the situation inside. Coupled with the fact that this mountain was already densely vegetated, any light or movement He made inside wouldn't be easily discovered.

Including Ye Zhongming, everyone except He was distributed around the edges of the sunken pit, guarding her safety.

At the same time, they could also watch the refining process at any time.

After all, He was sitting in the center of the pit bottom. From Ye Zhongming and the others' perspective, there were no obstacles, and their eyesight was excellent, so they naturally saw the process clearly.

The required materials automatically suspended around her the moment He activated it. Then the holy sigils began to glow slowly on her body, turning into something like a light screen that sucked in the materials one by one, turning them into liquid and gradually merging them.

After a period of time, the medicine would basically take shape. Whether pills or potions, they would be placed in containers.

Next was the second holy sigil. The difference was that it refined the product made by the first sigil.

Then came the third and the required fourth.

The pills were continuously refined under this light, finally splitting into ten and falling into porcelain bottles.

If one looked carefully, they would find that the pills had four holy sigil-shaped symbols, much smaller in size, which were quite magical.

After only a short rest, He began refining another type. Since the four-turn medicine had already been refined, this time only a three-turn refinement was needed. Both the difficulty and the required time were reduced accordingly, and it succeeded quickly. However, the three-turn medicine was a liquid, all contained in another bottle.

Even though He was a nine-star evolved, refining two types of medicine consecutively still made her somewhat tired. After all, not everyone had mental strength as frightening as Ye Zhongming's.

Only Shi Kangbu and Yang Tuo were left on the periphery for vigilance. Ye Zhongming, Helsky, and Jie Kui had already reached He's side. Looking at the refined medicines, the Cloud Peak King asked with anticipation, "Now, can you tell us what effects these have?"

Earlier, He had kept it a secret, which naturally made the others itch with curiosity.

He smiled, gently picking up the three-turn bottle and saying, "This one is External Water, specifically for treating external injuries. How to put it... Let me give an example: if someone's neck is cut open, if this medicine is poured on immediately, the wound will heal within seconds, so naturally, they won't die. However, it only works on this type of severe damage. If it's internal injuries or poison damage, it has no effect."

Ye Zhongming and the other two looked at each other, seeing shock in each other's eyes.

Indeed, this medicine only targeted external injuries, but such heaven-defying efficacy was simply a gospel for evolved individuals. And this was only a three-turn medicine? What would a ten-turn medicine be like?

"That, may I ask, the ones you sold in the novice camp earlier..."

Helsky knew He didn't want to acknowledge him, but he couldn't help asking.

Perhaps the successful medicine refinement put He in a good mood. Although her tone turned cold, she still answered, "One-turn."

Sure enough, what could be sold were the lowest grade.

"This, our tribe calls it Progress Pill. The effect is that after taking it, it can improve the weakest attribute in one's body. How much it improves depends on each person's situation. Of course, you can't keep taking it. Each life can take at most three pills."

"Permanent?"

This time, even Ye Zhongming couldn't help it.

He nodded. "Permanent."

Jie Kui swallowed hard. Now he wasn't admiring He but admiring Ye Zhongming. This vision was too amazing! Without knowing much about the Changxu Water Tribe, he had already thought of recruiting He into the team early on.

Perhaps it was a lucky accident, but that was still terrifying enough. This luck couldn't be better.

Jie Kui became even more determined to cling to this person's coattails.

Ye Zhongming, on the other hand, laughed heartily. Now, not to mention hunting Spiral Fish, he even dared to challenge other, more powerful existences!

Chapter 1848: Bump into again

The appearance of the Spiral Fish, in Ye Zhongming's view, was essentially a pointed-nose shark with three extra heads. Of course, their bodies were much larger than sharks, and besides the dorsal fin, their streamlined bodies had similar fin structures on both the left and right sides.

One should not underestimate these usually soft and flabby things in the water. Once the Spiral Fish became angry and started attacking a target, as it rotated, these fins would instantly turn into sharp blades, shredding all life around them. They were weapons second only to the four pointed heads.

This thing was a parasite, giving high points, and had extremely strong physical capabilities, far surpassing level nine mutated life.

Because they were familiar with this creature's habitat and had spent over an hour scouting, the basic situation was clear. The few gathered together to decide on the final strategy.

"It can now be confirmed that the Spiral Fish has four offspring with it. Two have just reached adulthood, and the other two are not yet adults but still possess some combat ability."

Ye Zhongming spoke calmly to those around him.

"Since we are fighting in water, it will reduce our strength to some extent. However, with the mark, this aspect will be better. But still, pay attention: you must listen to my commands and follow the steps one by one. Let's be clear upfront: as long as you listen to commands, even if severely injured, I will heal everyone. But if you don't listen to commands and cause difficulties for the hunt, then be prepared to become points."

The Cloud Peak King's gaze swept over the faces of several people. His tone wasn't particularly harsh, but the aura he emitted made no one dare to disobey.

Now, the medicines refined by He, namely the External Water and Progress Pills, had been bought by Ye Zhongming. The price was naturally not high—deducting the cost of materials, the low price was basically at cost. But as the team leader, this was Ye Zhongming's forceful decision.

He wouldn't let He suffer a loss. After all, even without Ye Zhongming and the others, she would still refine medicines to sell back, so it definitely couldn't be distributed like in Cloud Peak. However, since Ye Zhongming and the others were now helping her earn points, the price of the medicines naturally wouldn't be high. It could be considered custom-made.

However, similarly, for the team to be more united and truly reach the end, Ye Zhongming also had to manage these resources, distributing them to team members at appropriate times as rewards.

Earlier, Jie Kui had already bought three Progress Pills at a low price. Shi Kangbu also bought one, though the price was slightly higher than Jie Kui's. As for Helsky and Yang Tuo, they had no purchasing rights prior to making their contributions.

Of course, all the points mentioned above needed to be recorded and settled upon returning to camp after the small cycle ended.

"Then now, I will make the assignments." Ye Zhongming's hand tapped on the simple map drawn on the ground.

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Aimusi swallowed the last bite of dried meat and looked at a companion.

The companion nodded, indicating it was okay.

Their team had been hunting in the Sea of Ten Thousand Islands for almost three days, all for this moment. They were even afraid Ye Zhongming would discover them, so the team went to the Vengeful Mist Rainforest to hunt on the second day. The rest of the time, they also hid at the edge of this area.

After the entanglement and life-and-death struggle of the last small cycle, they all understood Ye Zhongming's strength. This time, they didn't adopt a strong assault posture from the start but planned to concentrate their efforts into one action, launching a sneak attack to resolve this matter thoroughly.

At the same time, this was also a method the team could accept. After all, their plan was to carry out this action only in the last few hours before the end of this small cycle. The time before could be used to increase points.

"His location was just refreshed, but you were right. He is very cunning. The location I detected differs from the location that was just refreshed. He is still like that—moving quickly after the location is refreshed."

After saying this, this person took out the map given to him by Hawkins earlier, first marking Ye Zhongming's location at the time of refresh, then marking the current location.

Everyone was not in a hurry. After waiting a few minutes, this person tapped on the map again.

Hawkins and the others watched carefully.

"Although this last bit of time isn't long, no newcomer will give up. Ye Zhongming and the others are the same. Without the pressure of us chasing them, they will definitely continue to earn points. Look, their points have already exceeded seven hundred now. They've killed almost ten people."

Wade's words carried obvious hatred, and at the same time, he was secretly very tempted.

If they could kill Ye Zhongming, they could get over two hundred points. These points really made them extremely tempted.

Now, the person with the most points in the team was Aimusi. With Hawkins taking very few, her points were now only nearly five hundred. Just by killing Ye Zhongming, they could get close to her score.

Hawkins glanced at Wade. "Based on his current direction of travel, there are three prey in this area that could catch his eye: the Brute Force Beast on this small island, the overlord of this sea area, the Spiral Fish, and the Purple Fern Algae Worm here."

"I think his target should be the first two. Ye Zhongming's group has too few people. Going to hunt a group of mutated life with low individual points would be not worth the loss."

After Aimusi calmed down, she didn't act rashly.

"Spiral Fish."

Yaka suddenly said.

"Why?"

Between the Brute Force Beast and the Spiral Fish, everyone was a bit indecisive. In fact, most were leaning towards the former because the Brute Force Beast was on land, making hunting more convenient. If it were them, they would definitely choose this over the Spiral Fish, which required fighting in the sea.

"More points."

Yaka's explanation was simple and clear. After saying this, she added, "Didn't you say he might have some ability in the sea? Then, since that's the case, there isn't much difference for him between land and seawater. Why not choose the one with more points? Neither the Brute Force Beast nor the Spiral Fish are alone; they are both in groups of four or five. The total points difference exceeds fifty. Both are risks, both are hunts—why not pick the one with more points?"

Everyone thought it seemed truly reasonable.

"Let's go to the Spiral Fish. If we can find them, that's best. If not, then we'll go to the Brute Force Beast."

Aimusi made the final decision.

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Helsky and Yang Tuo glanced at each other and swiftly swam backward together. Their task was already completed. The next time they would act would be the final harvesting stage.

The two rushed together to the sea surface. The lead Spiral Fish behind them, which they had attracted, sensed something was wrong and had already turned back to reinforce, but it was probably too late.

By now, it was half successful. The points would be in hand soon, and both could hardly conceal their excitement.

But just as they were about to return to the battlefield, they suddenly realized something. Together, they turned around. On a small island not far away, a team had already leaped onto the sea surface, riding a mechanical speedboat and madly speeding toward them!

Chapter 1849: Bump into again (2)

Yang Tuo did not know who these people were, but Helsky did. They had met before. Although there had been some conflict in the black mist created by Ye Zhongming, that was an accident. Given that they shared the same enemy and were both from Earth, Aimusi had not made things difficult for him.

Now the situation was different. Helsky stood with Ye Zhongming, so these people were enemies.

The mechanical speedboat, whose origins were unknown, was extremely fast. Helsky knew at a glance that his swimming speed was clearly no match.

This meant he could no longer notify Ye Zhongming and the others.

Helsky knew he had to make a choice now.

He suddenly raised his hand, waving toward the speedboat, and shouted a few words loudly.

"Don't say anything, just follow me."

Just before the speedboat noticed them and sped over, Yang Tuo heard Helsky's low whisper.

"It's you?"

Aimusi's beautiful eyes narrowed slightly.

"Strange?" Helsky treaded water while looking up at this woman. "You came too, didn't you?"

"I just didn't expect you to have this capability, to find this place."

Helsky smiled, but in his heart, he was already cursing Aimusi's elders.

This woman, you really know how to kill a conversation.

"Heh, sometimes hatred can greatly increase a person's potential. Of course, points have the same effect."

It must be said, Helsky really knew how to talk. In this aspect, Aimusi was like an elementary school student before him.

Sure enough, whether it was Aimusi or Hawkins, upon hearing Helsky say this, their previously guarded expressions lessened considerably.

No matter what, being fellow Earthlings and sharing a common enemy indeed made them feel a sense of psychological closeness.

"Your team seems to have more people than last time." Helsky wore a bitter smile, his eyes showing clear envy and reluctance.

Aimusi looked at him without speaking. After a while, she said, "Wait a moment."

Then, she turned around and began murmuring with the people behind her. The voices were extremely low; even though Helsky was right next to the speedboat, he couldn't hear very clearly. He only heard something about how to treat him.

Yang Tuo was a bit nervous.

Right now, it was just him and Helsky here, while there were six people on the opposite speedboat. Moreover, it seemed Hawkins and Aimusi were very strong. If a fight broke out, the two of them couldn't hold out.

They couldn't outrun them, couldn't defeat them. All they could do in the end was wait.

For people at their level, this feeling of waiting for fate's judgment was terrible.

"Do you know where Ye Zhongming is now?" The people on the speedboat seemed to have concluded. Aimusi came back to the bow and looked at Helsky in the water as she asked.

"Of course, he's in this sea area. You should know too, right? Otherwise, why would you come here?" Helsky looked skeptical.

Aimusi coughed, a bit embarrassed by the question, then said, "What else do you know?"

Helsky suddenly fell silent, which made Yang Tuo nervous. He thought, Brother, you were full of drama just now, a real drama king. Why aren't you speaking now?

"I do know some information, and it's quite detailed, but I can't think of why I should tell you."

Helsky's response made Yang Tuo break out in a cold sweat.

Brother, they have the advantage now! Talking to them like this, aren't you afraid they'll threaten you? Okay, I am indeed a very team-oriented person, but if they get angry, my stand isn't that firm either!

"Angry?" Helsky shrugged. "I'm telling the truth. If I tell you, what's in it for me? To have you help me kill Ye Zhongming? No, no, no. Although I came here seeking revenge, it's not an absolute necessity. Between him and me... sorry, ma'am, no offense, but the hatred isn't as great as yours."

As he spoke, Helsky also glanced at the child's corpse in Aimusi's arms.

A flash of anger appeared in Aimusi's eyes, but Hawkins patted her shoulder.

"But you still want Ye Zhongming dead, don't you? Otherwise, you wouldn't have come here, right?" Hawkins squatted at the bow of the speedboat. This action felt much better than that sharp and mean woman.

"Previously, you had four companions, but now only one is left, and he's a newcomer. You also returned from over there. If I guess correctly, you found the situation untenable, right?"

Hawkins looked at Helsky with confidence as he spoke.

Helsky perfectly displayed a mix of a bit of surprise, a little embarrassment, and a little expectation instead of replying.

"Now, if we let you join our team and allow you to fulfill your wish of killing Ye Zhongming for revenge, can that exchange for your information?"

Helsky looked very seriously at Hawkins, already shouting in his heart, Brother, you really get it.

"But I don't think you'll let me kill Ye Zhongming with my own hands."

Hawkins smiled. "Of course not, but you also won't have to face Ye Zhongming directly. You'll be safe, and it will save effort. You'll also gain my... fifty-point friendship."

Helsky pondered for a moment before saying, "I don't need you to give me points, but you have to agree to one condition. Don't worry, it definitely won't affect your interests. Moreover, the information I have is of absolute value to you. The value my companion and I bring by joining won't be just a bit of information as you imagine."

"What condition?" Aimusi asked a bit impatiently.

In her opinion, they should just capture the two and interrogate them. But Hawkins said that while the other party was guarded, even if all six of them attacked, they couldn't guarantee a successful strike in one move. Once a fight broke out, it was very likely to alert Ye Zhongming, who should be nearby.

So, harmony was the best solution. Bringing the two into the revenge team would not only increase their strength but also provide two more cannon fodder when facing Ye Zhongming.

"Anyway, it definitely won't affect your interests. Agree to it, and I'll tell you the information because this is actually part of the information."

Hawkins stood up, took two steps back, stood shoulder to shoulder with Aimusi, discussed with Wade, Yaka, and the others again, and agreed to this request.

Helsky smiled. "Ye Zhongming isn't alone now. Besides himself, he has five other helpers, plus one of his war beasts. Their overall strength is not weak. My condition is: Ye Zhongming can be yours, but that woman among the other helpers must be ours. Besides that, the two of us will also help you deal with that war beast."

Five helpers? Hawkins and the others were startled. Didn't that mean Ye Zhongming's team had six people plus a war beast? Didn't that exceed their own team's combat power?

Fortunately, there were still these two in front of them.

"Agreed. Then, welcome to the team."

Facing Hawkins' outstretched hand, Helsky grabbed it, jumped onto the speedboat in one smooth motion, his face already lit up with joy.

Chapter 1850: Bump into again (3)

"What the hell are Helsky and Yang Tuo doing!?"

Jie Kui wiped the blood from his face and had to use Glancing Shadow again to dodge the attack from the lead Spiral Fish. Then, he was rammed into the chest by Qiuqiu, which carried him out of the sea surface, thus avoiding a second attack.

According to the plan, Helsky and Yang Tuo were supposed to attract these Spiral Fish first, using the speed difference caused by their strength gap to draw the lead fish and the following fish away. After that, they would use Qiuqiu's indestructible state to tie down one adult Spiral Fish, while Ye Zhongming would tie down the other. Jie Kui and Shi Kangbu would quickly kill the two immature opponents.

Once this plan was set in motion, the lead Spiral Fish would realize something was wrong and immediately return to reinforce. Helsky and Yang Tuo were then supposed to follow closely behind. Wherever the lead Spiral Fish attacked, they were to join in, buying time for the other smaller battlefields. Finally, after killing the other four Spiral Fish, they would join forces to kill the lead fish.

In short, this was a seemingly simple plan to split the battlefield, but it required precise coordination from everyone. Otherwise, given the speed of the Spiral Fish, reinforcing the battlefield wouldn't take much time. If they failed to kill them one by one and allowed them to regroup, there would be big trouble.

But there was a major flaw in the plan!

At the most critical moment, Helsky and Yang Tuo disappeared!

This meant Jie Kui and Shi Kangbu only had time to kill one immature Spiral Fish before having to face the wrath of the returning lead fish.

If Qiuqiu hadn't come to help here under Ye Zhongming's signal when he noticed something wrong, Jie Kui might have been finished. Even so, Shi Kangbu had just been hit, struck by the lead fish, and was now floating on the sea surface, motionless, unknown whether dead or alive.

The lead fish, plus one immature Spiral Fish and one adult Spiral Fish that had broken free because Qiuqiu came to reinforce, had regrouped.

On the other side, Ye Zhongming had the upper hand against the remaining adult fish but hadn't completed the kill yet. He still needed a little time. If he came to reinforce now, it would be a huge loss, meaning the plan had completely failed. After all this effort, they had only killed one immature fish and now had to face an almost intact Spiral Fish group with three combatants missing. Forget killing them; even escaping would be a problem.

A battle that wasn't exactly a sure thing but had a very high chance of victory had suddenly become extremely passive and dangerous due to the sudden disappearance of Helsky and Yang Tuo. Jie Kui felt utterly frustrated.

He also knew that what he needed to do now was to tie down the lead fish and the other three fish as much as possible with Qiuqiu, allowing Ye Zhongming to complete the kill on that one adult fish. Otherwise, if they regrouped, the operation would truly be a complete failure.

Patting Qiuqiu, Jie Kui leaped down from mid-air. Light appeared in his hands, and he pushed two beams of energy into the sea's surface from above.

Frontal combat wasn't his forte, but he couldn't care about that now. Even if this ability consumed huge energy, he had to use it. He didn't seek to kill the enemy, only to temporarily hold them here, buying as much time as possible for Ye Zhongming.

Then, Jie Kui's body crashed into the sea surface. His weapon reappeared in his hand, and he slashed at that immature Spiral Fish.

This could be considered a strategy. Only this way could he ensure both adult Spiral Fish wouldn't leave, forced to reinforce their offspring, which only had about level eight strength now.

Before the lead fish could attack, that adult Spiral Fish charged over. Its body rotated at high speed, its several heads plus its body forming a vortex around it. This vortex had strong suction; once within range, it was hard to break free.

Shi Kangbu had been hit earlier precisely because he didn't understand this suction. By the time the lead fish's massive water vortex arrived, it was too late to realize.

Jie Kui could still dodge in time now.

But he gritted his teeth and didn't dodge!

If he dodged, this adult Spiral Fish alone could tie him down here, and the lead fish would immediately charge toward Ye Zhongming. Although the situation wouldn't be as bad as a full regroup, it would

become a temporary stalemate. Once it dragged on, he didn't think their stamina could compare to that of the Spiral Fish, monsters naturally living in the ocean.

Jie Kui's eyes turned red. He knew it was time to fight desperately.

He didn't know the Earth saying "Fortune favors the bold," but he understood the meaning.

Why had he gained Ye Zhongming's trust before? Why could he buy three Progress Pills at a low price under the envious eyes of Helsky and others, making up for his body's defensive shortcomings? It was because he followed them steadfastly, not afraid of tiredness nor afraid of danger.

Otherwise, why should they favor you?

When a top-tier life form goes all out, it is quite terrifying.

Blood began to seep from Jie Kui's face. This was a sign of forcibly activating his ability. Blade light shot toward where the Spiral Fish was charging, and another blade light flew toward the lead fish.

This desperate tactic clearly shook the Spiral Fish, but it didn't retreat at all. Even the lead fish charged together, vowing to kill this nuisance.

The blade light and the collision happened simultaneously. Blood almost instantly dyed the sea surface red.

Jie Kui thought he would die. He didn't expect the two Spiral Fish to fight so desperately, charging at him, even facing his attack.

That adult Spiral Fish had half its head cut off by Jie Kui. The lead fish also had a wound, but Jie Kui...

He thought he would die, but his expression changed suddenly. His body jolted violently, and he swam backward.

Hmm, there were wounds, many of them, but seemingly none fatal. Bones, well, some were broken, but not even shattered.

This was...

Jie Kui's gaze immediately found He and Qiuqiu not far away, her face pale.

Just now, at the most critical moment, He had applied a water chain on him—a single water chain, with the highest defense level. Qiuqiu had also rammed the lead fish.

The two had joined forces to save his life.

Because of Jie Kui's desperate fight and He's timely arrival, the situation changed.

Shi Kangbu's condition was unknown, dead or alive. Jie Kui, though not dead, was severely injured and could only guarantee bodily movement but couldn't continue fighting.

On the Spiral Fish side, the lead fish wasn't heavily injured and was basically unaffected. That adult one was pretty much almost dead.

The lead fish was clearly very dissatisfied with He's sudden arrival, using her ability to save Jie Kui. It roared and charged at He.

He had also consumed a lot just now. Her body hadn't recovered yet, and coupled with her inherent lack of combat skills, she definitely couldn't dodge. Qiuqiu's speed in water had also slowed. Even though it was a little tank, its area was too small to block the huge lead fish's charge completely.

Fortunately, a black shadow appeared out of thin air nearby. The bone dagger stabbed at the lead fish before itself exploding. The mental shock slowed it down, creating a precious chance for He to escape.

He gratefully glanced at the man who had arrived. He had successfully killed the other adult Spiral Fish and had come to the main battlefield. But she noticed the man's gaze wasn't on the Spiral Fish but on the sea surface in the distance.

There, a white line was approaching rapidly!