

Avatar 1011

Chapter 1011: A Confrontation Separated by a Year

"Sky Strike! After Combat Form's Tyrant's Destruction was blocked, he immediately followed up with a Sky Strike! How fluid! This is a very basic combo though. I'm sure many players in the game can do it, but being able to link them together so fluidly isn't easy." Pan Lin shouted.

"But Lord Grim was still able to evade it with a leap backwards." Li Yibo said.

"Mm... This type of basic combo probably won't be any threat to Ye Xiu." Pan Lin said.

"Yes, Qiu Fei needs to set his own rhythm and make things difficult for Ye Xiu to grasp. In other words, facing Ye Xiu, such fluidness isn't actually a good thing." Li Yibo said.

"Yes, Qiu Fei's playing is as precise as a textbook, but the problem is, the textbook was written by his opponent. If he continues to fight like this, he won't be a threat." Pan Lin said.

"His attacks have all been neutralized by Ye Xiu. Even though Qiu Fei has the initiative and is on the offensive, he hasn't dealt any significant damage to Lord Grim. He needs to keep a calm mind and not be so anxious." Li Yibo said.

"Dragon Rises from the Sea!" Pan Lin suddenly cried out. Qiu Fei took advantage of an opening and released a high-level skill.

"It still missed." Li Yibo continued, "There were no problems with the execution of this Dragon Rises from the Sea, but just like what we said before, it definitely matters who you're playing against. Facing Ye Xiu, your perfect execution happens to be the problem."

"But it seems like Ye Xiu hasn't been able to find any opportunity to counter attack." Pan Lin said.

"Uh... Qiu Fei is playing perfectly, so he isn't giving Ye Xiu any opportunities." Li Yibo said.

"In that case, Qiu Fei's playstyle isn't bad then. It's at least put him in a position where he can't lose?" Pan Lin said.

"..." Li Yibo was rendered speechless. This time, I fell into that trap way too easily.

Luckily, it looks like the tides are turning!

Combat Form used a Sky Strike. Lord Grim attacked to block it, while simultaneously leaping backwards. This time, Qiu Fei didn't quickly follow up. Sky Strike had been blocked and Lord Grim may not have taken much damage, but because of the knockup effect, Lord Grim's leap backwards was affected and went a bit higher than what was expected.

This slight change became a turning point in this match. Combat Form thrust his spear forward with a Dragon Breaks the Ranks.

Not many could see such a tiny detail. After seeing the high-level skill come out, the stadium erupted with cheers. Even Li Yibo shouted "It hit!"

But Dragon Breaks the Ranks missed. Lord Grim activated Rotor Wings and flew towards the sky, dodging the attack. The crowd felt disappointed. Li Yibo, who cried out "It hit", felt embarrassed.

"Haha, he used Rotor Wings to dodge it. Only an unspecialized can be so flexible! It looks like our Coach Li isn't too familiar with the unspecialized class either?" Pan Lin left this question hanging, when he saw Li Yibo's expression. He knew that Li Yibo probably wasn't too happy with his teasing, but he couldn't deal with it right now. The match was still underway!

"Falling Light Blade! Lord Grim uses Falling Light Blade in midair to directly come down. Combat Form turns around and stabs with his spear. Oh, it's a Circle Swing! Is he going to catch him? No! Lord Grim pulls his blade back to block the spear. His Falling Light Blade turned from an attack into a block. I'm sure everyone knows. Circle Swing's grab priority is somewhat different from normal grab skills. The spear has to hit first before the grab priority comes into effect. If not, then the grab is neutralized."

"Lord Grim lands at the rear diagonally. Combat Form chases after him. Dragon Breaks the Ranks doesn't have any ending lag, so Qiu Fei was able to react extremely quickly. In that previous exchange, even though Dragon Breaks the Ranks doesn't have a dead angle, Lord Grim's Falling Light Blade was a back attack! Who would have imagined such a young player could make such an experienced decision? Could this be the intuition of a genius?" Seizing the opportunity while the two sides weren't fighting, Pan Lin commented on the previous exchange.

After he finished saying these words, Qiu Fei's Combat Form rushed to Lord Grim's side. A Dragon Tooth came out. It was a very normal combo, but it was timed perfectly.

Lord Grim, who had just landed on the ground, turned around. He lifted his Myriad Manifestations Umbrella and opened it up to form a shield.

Knight's Blind Shield playstyle?

Qiu Fei weighed it in his mind. He didn't doubt that Ye Xiu could use any class's playstyle. It was not just Battle Mages. Many of the playstyles for many of the classes in Glory had been created by him. There were so many that it was impossible to count.

Combat Form retreated one step. As he expected, Lord Grim's Myriad Manifestations Umbrella was quickly retracted. The umbrella tip opened and an artillery shell flew out.

Combat Form's step back helped win Qiu Fei some time to react. Combat Form twisted his body and dodged the artillery shell.

"Woah, Ye Xiu's weapon opened up. It looked like he was going to use a Knight's Shield Blind playstyle, but in the end, when he attacked, he didn't hide behind his shield. It was still an unexpected attack! But Qiu Fei was ready. Everyone, look. Just before the attack, Combat Form took a stepback, giving him enough time to react. If he hadn't taken that step, no matter how fast his reaction speed was, he probably wouldn't have been able to dodge it." Li Yibo commented.

"Dragon Tooth! Combat Form used another Dragon Tooth. The cooldown on that skill is very low!" Pan Lin said.

After dodging the artillery shell, Qiu Fei used a Dragon Tooth, which had just gone off cooldown. This simple skill was the fastest counterattack that could be made at this moment. The smoke from the tip of the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella had yet to dissipate!

But the umbrella canopy once again opened up.

Again?

Qiu Fei didn't dare be careless. He once again chose to retreat one step. However, this time, the umbrella canopy opened up until it was transformed: Myriad Manifestations Umbrella spear form. It thrust towards Combat Form from the same angle.

Also a Dragon Tooth?

It was a clash between the same skills. In that case, whoever had the higher attack power would have priority. In terms of stats, Qiu Fei believed that his Combat Form didn't lose to Lord Grim. A Level 70 Silver weapon wouldn't be too different from a Level 75 Orange weapon in terms of stats, but the weakness was that unspecialized didn't have armor proficiency.

All 24 Glory classes had armor proficiency. When they used armor that the class was proficient in, there would be a bonus in stats. And this was something that an unspecialized character couldn't possess. As a result, even if they were wearing same-level equipment, unspecialized characters lacked armor proficiency, so there would naturally be a disparity in stats.

Of course, more importantly... Lord Grim didn't have any Silver equipment apart from his weapon, so the stats of his equipment were quite obvious. Even though Qiu Fei didn't have the exact numbers, he could do a rough estimate of the capabilities of Lord Grim's equipment.

Since both of us used Dragon Tooth, I should win the exchange!

Qiu Fei verified this thought in an instant. As a result, he didn't retreat and had his Dragon Tooth continued forward.

In this way, the two spears clashed. The degree of precision displayed was astonishing to see. However, right when the two sides clashed, from how the attacks changed due to priority, Qiu Fei determined that this wasn't Dragon Tooth.

Yes! Lord Grim hadn't used Dragon Tooth, but another Battle Mage skill: Double Stab.

The first attack lowered Dragon Tooth's striking power, but the first part of Double Stab was weaker in priority than Dragon Tooth. However, after the first stab, Dragon Tooth's speed had been greatly reduced, while the second stab came like lightning towards Combat Form.

Use the first hit to interrupt and the second hit to strike!

A bunch of words floated in Qiu Fei's mind. It was a technique commonly used by Ye Xiu. At the same time, it was also when Qiu Fei played for Guild Excellent Dynasty against Happy. When he fought against Ye Xiu, who had been using Soft Mist, Qiu Fei had missed the opportunity to use that technique, which Ye Xiu had pointed out to him.

A year had passed since then.

Last time, he missed the opportunity to use it. This time, he was hit by that very technique.....

Thoughts floated through Qiu Fei's mind.. He thought of that match last year to when Ye Xiu was still in Excellent Era to when he was still in the training camp.

Team Excellent Era was a top team in the Alliance. The scale of their training camp was far greater than most teams. Among these trainees, nine out of ten dreamed of becoming One Autumn Leaf's successor, even if that trainee didn't play a Battle Mage. Nothing would affect this dream of theirs.

Qiu Fei had played a Battle Mage from the beginning. From day one in Glory, he had loved this class at first sight.

That year, Team Excellent Era won the champions for the third time in a row. God Ye Qiu's fame soared like the sun.

But this God never gave anyone a chance to meet with him in person. The only indication of him was the character that stood on stage.

Battle God One Autumn Leaf. The heroic pose displayed when he fought was deeply imprinted into Qiu Fei's mind. Later, he joined Team Excellent Era's training camp. However, he was different from the other kids. His dream wasn't to become One Autumn Leaf's successor. He wished to bring his own character and leave the same mark in battle like that year's One Autumn Leaf.

Who took a young child's dream seriously? As he gradually stood out in the training camp, Qiu Fei became titled as One Autumn Leaf's successor.

This was a position that who knew how many trainees envied. However, Qiu Fei's dream never changed. He liked his own character much better. He liked his Combat Form, and in Excellent Era's training camp, he finally got to see God Ye Qiu with his own eyes. God Ye Qiu was completely different from what he had imagined. The mysterious God Ye Qiu, who never appeared in public, wasn't as arrogant as most people thought he was. Everyday, with a cigarette in his mouth and smoke circling around him, he chatted with everyone at Club Excellent Era. He was the Alliance's number one player, but even Club Excellent Era's janitor could proudly say that he had fought a match against Ye Qiu before.

The janitor wasn't lying. Numerous people in the club played with this God before. Rumors said that whenever these people got into a conflict in game, if they couldn't win, they would pull Ye Qiu over to play for them, and Ye Qiu would happily go over.

God Ye Qiu dominated the Alliance, but he enjoyed Glory in the simplest and most ordinary ways. Qiu Fei had seen him play on an alternate account not just once or twice. Every time, the account was different too.

"Don't tell anyone!" The God would always look at him, "In a bit, I'll gift you a good piece of equipment." The God would always pat his shoulder and say.

How could there be any good equipment? The alternate accounts that God played on had the worst equipment. Who would have imagined that behind these trash characters stood the God who controlled the most powerful character in the Alliance, Battle God One Autumn Leaf.

Chapter 1012: New Skill

The God that Qiu Fei saw with his own eyes wasn't so spectacular that it was impossible to look at him, as he had originally thought.

The real God was very normal and simple, but it was easy to see that his love for Glory came from the heart.

Competition wasn't just about winning; it was a joy in and of itself.

Qiu Fei really liked this quote from the God and was eager for the day he could experience the joy of competition. He never relented in his efforts, hoping that this day would come sooner. Some of the other trainees laughed at him for being dumb. To them, it was way too soon for him to even be thinking about succeeding God Ye Qiu.

That wasn't how Qiu Fei thought. God Ye Qiu's successor? This was just a title given to him by others. As for him, he hoped to stand beside God Ye Qiu on the battlefield, enjoying the match and pursuing victory together! Although he was coincidentally also a Battle Mage and it was rather hard to become a core member when there was a class overlap, but, no one ever said that it was impossible, right?

Qiu Fei had worked hard to achieve this goal, and that God would occasionally come to the training camp to give him guidance or play a training match or two with him. His habit was to point out flaws during the battle and then find a chance to personally demonstrate them. There was a reason that he was a master of all classes. Excellent Era's training camp did consist of more Battle Mages, but there were plenty of other classes. That God could give guidance to any player of any class, even more imposing than the fabled cheat.

Qiu Fei hadn't lacked that God's guidance back then. Each time it would be his problems that were pointed out before that God showed them how to deal with the said problem.

Last summer, when the two met unexpectedly, that God had fought a training match of unprecedented standards, except that time, that God hadn't had the chance to show him how to fix those problems. Now, after a year, that God had finally displayed the way to combo after cancelling a Double Stab. Though this might have been a coincidence, Qiu Fei couldn't help but think of that training match he had last year. Was the unfinished demonstration finally being completed in this match? He couldn't dodge this strike...

"Combat Form has been hit!"

With the commentator's yell, Lord Grim followed up on the hit that Qiu Fei couldn't avoid.

"Sky Strike! Shuriken! Moonlight Slash! Gore Cross! Earthquake Sword! Shadow Cloak! Eh! Er... er..." Commentator Pan Lin was shouting out all the skills as Lord Grim used them, but then his voice trailed off. He wanted to cut in again a few more times, but before he could announce the skill, Lord Grim was already using the next skill.

All of them were level 20 and under skills with little end or starting lag, and Lord Grim's combo was kept at an extremely fast pace, and in addition, he wasn't using any combinations Pan Lin was familiar with. Thus, after a few skills, Pan Lin could no longer keep up with the combos and could only shut up in disappointment.

"Is he going to just keep this combo up for the rest of the match?"

Qiu Fei found Lord Grim's combo very alien. He was very much familiar with these skills, but the combination created from them wasn't something within his realm of study. His mind couldn't keep up with the combo. This wasn't just a lack of experience, but it was like stepping into an entirely new realm, as if he was going up against a class from a different game.

What made Qiu Fei feel even more helpless was that Ye Xiu predicted all of his attempted countermeasures, avoiding the chance of him fighting back and prolonging his own offense. The few plans Qiu Fei had tried to execute were all quickly foiled because Ye Xiu managed to adjust before Qiu Fei had a chance to properly put them in motion, causing all of them to fail.

"Will none of these do? Then it seems like I have no choice..."

The airborne Combat Form timed himself to grasp a chance and suddenly twisted. Lord Grim pursued him and made to counter, yet Combat Form's raised spear didn't stab towards Lord Grim, but rather at the ground beneath him.

A halo of light descended from the spear and sunk into the ground. Following that, a pulse of magic spread through the earth and Combat Form swung his spear in the air. Suddenly, the ground seemed to tear apart and chunks of earth were blown into the air exactly where Lord Grim was.

The new level 75 Battle Mage skill: Shattering the Lands! The skill could transfer destructive magical energy and eventually erupt like that to land a sneak attack on an opponent

Level 75 skills only appeared a long time after Ye Xiu had left Excellent Era. Ye Xiu hadn't helped Qiu Fei master these skills, so he had mastered this skill independently. This was finally something that Ye Xiu couldn't easily predict. This Shattering the Lands interrupted Lord Grim's offense and helped Qiu Fei balance out the situation.

"Very nice. This Shattering the Lands was used perfectly. As a level 75 skill, there's no standard method of using it yet, so every player uses it according to their own method. We don't know how well Qiu Fei has mastered these skills either, but in that instant just now, Shattering the Lands was used beautifully, immediately cutting off any possibility of Lord Grim prolonging his offense combo and giving him a wonderful chance to strike back."

"Combat Form advances!"

Having interrupted Lord Grim's combo, Qiu Fei immediately had Combat Form strike back. He started with Dragon Tooth, a typical opening, but still one of the most commonly used for Battle Mages, and Qiu Fei used it with the most focus he could gather.

Dragon Tooth, Sky Strike, Falling Flower Palm, Circle Swing... These four skills were the lowest level skills for Battle Mages, but the small and simple combo formed through these four skills was something any Battle Mage could use with fluency. Under Qiu Fei's meticulous mechanics, the combo was flawlessly executed. In an instant, the four skills were all used, but they were still easily neutralized by Lord Grim. Many people knew how to execute these skills flawlessly, but their countermeasures had also long since been perfected.

Lord Grim easily dodged the four skill combo, but he didn't expect Qiu Fei to suddenly perform another unexpected action, unleashing another level 75 skill.

Cloud Whirling Windstorm!

The spear was whirled, whipping up the winds with a magic pulse, and the magic pulse was injected into these winds, raging towards their target alongside the spear.

That was when Lord Grim opened up his umbrella, hiding behind it lightly, unafraid of wind or rain.

This time, Qiu Fei didn't back down, and instead stepping forward when the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella opened up, slamming his attack right down against it.

Chapter 1013: One More Hit

The new Level 75 skills were studied by everyone. It didn't matter what skill level one was at. In the end, it was still something new. Those at a higher skill level would use it very effectively. Those at a lower skill level would easily get their attacks neutralized. While at the pro level, it was no longer as simple as if the timing was right or wrong, better or worse. What mattered was suitability. Every player had their own style. Every character had different stats. As a result, how a skill was used would be different. The variances from standard combos came from these differences. Pro players would make adjustments to these combos depending on their strengths and their style.

Qiu Fei was no longer that young training camp kid. He had always dreamt of his character standing on stage. From the very start, he never blindly imitated anyone. He had his own understanding of the Battle Mage and his own playstyle. It was true that Ye Xiu had studied the new Level 75 skills, but that didn't mean he could predict how every player would use them. Ye Xiu had a good understanding of Qiu Fei, but it was like what Li Yibo had analyzed. No one could predict how young players grew. After another year of growth along with Qiu Fei's own understanding and utilization of the new Level 75 skill, Qiu Fei had finally created his own style.

Falling Flower Palm!

Combat Form slid forward and smacked the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella. Shields not only reduced the damage from an incoming attack, but effects like knockbacks were reduced significantly too. However, the reduction was directly proportional to the shield's weight. The Myriad Manifestations Umbrella could swiftly change into different forms. As a result, could be determined that the weapon shouldn't be too heavy. Therefore, when the umbrella switched to shield form, Qiu Fei was confident that it would be unable to completely block Falling Flower Palm's knockback effect.

As expected, when the Falling Flower Palm struck the umbrella, Lord Grim was forced back. The path of the attack had been from bottom to top. As Lord Grim slid back, the umbrella also moved up, leaving a huge hole. Qiu Fei wanted this result and attacked with a Tyrant's Destruction. Even though he couldn't completely see Lord Grim, he knew that his spear would reach him.

The umbrella suddenly collapsed with a bang. The umbrella tip transformed into a gun and fired a round of bullets. Qiu Fei reacted quickly. Combat Form borrowed the momentum from Tyrant's Destruction to

twist his body and dodge it. However, Lord Grim borrowed the recoil of his gun to slide even farther back, causing Combat Form's Tyrant's Destruction to miss.

"Wow... is this for real? The transformations from Lord Grim's Myriad Manifestations Umbrella are truly too unexpected." Pan Lin sighed, seeing Qiu Fei's attack miss.

"What's more important is that it can change forms instantly." Li Yibo said.

"But Qiu Fei isn't done yet!" Pan Lin shouted.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks!

Combat Form raised his spear and a dragon roared out. Ye Xiu had predicted it though. Lord Grim forcefully changed directions while sliding back, but to his surprise, this Dragon Breaks the Ranks didn't move in a straight line. There was a slight curvature to it. Lord Grim tried to move away, but in the end, he fell into Dragon Breaks the Rank's path. Dodging was impossible. With no time left, Ye Xiu could only have Lord Grim Guard. This pure defensive skill had been completely maxed. Although it could reduce the damage from the attack, Dragon Breaks the Ranks had a much higher priority. Lord Grim's right hand holding the sword collapsed to the side under the pressure. Lord Grim was knocked back and also stunned by the attack.

"Beautiful!" Pan Lin cried out. He hadn't thought that after Qiu Fei's first attack missed, he would follow up again to quickly make up for it.

"Mm, this attack was very brave. Qiu Fei guessed that Ye Xiu would have Lord Grim dodge, but would he dodge left or right? I don't think he knew, but he still had Dragon Breaks the Ranks move in an arc. This is like a penalty kick. Left or right? He had to make a gamble. Qiu Fei is playing very decisively!" Li Yibo said.

"If that attack hadn't hit, the big opening would have been patched up." Pan Lin said.

"Of course. But he made the correct guess and grasped an opportunity. Glory is just this amazing." Li Yibo said in admiration.

"Yes. Even though Ye Xiu quickly put up a Guard and reduced the damage, he was still stunned by Dragon Breaks the Ranks. Qiu Fei has already started his combo." Pan Lin yelled, "Sky Strike into the air and using Chasers to keep the target afloat and stunned. This is a conventional Battle Mage combo, but this combo is also very difficult to pull off!"

"Correct. It's exactly because executing this combo is so difficult that it's given rise to the "Random Chaser Combo", which is much easier to execute and still very formidable. More and more players are starting to use it nowadays. In fact, it's actually very rare for someone to execute the original combo anymore." Li Yibo said.

"But in theory, this combo is impossible to escape from." Pan Lin said.

"That's only in theory." Li Yibo smiled, "Even Ye Qiu at his peak was only able to pull off an infinite inescapable combo that one time, no?"

"Haha, the first classic in the history of Glory. I've seen that clip. It's truly incredible." Pan Lin said.

"Yes, classics can't be reproduced. After that, even Ye Qiu was unable to do it again. Usually, an inescapable ten hit combo is already considered quite good." Li Yibo said.

"But we know that for the Random Chaser Combo, fifteen hits within a short time frame isn't anything difficult." Pan Lin said.

"True. The Random Chaser Combo's burst is much better and is easier to perform. In real combat, I think it's a lot more practical." Li Yibo said.

"But Qiu Fei is choosing this more difficult to control combo."

"He doesn't have a choice. The Random Chaser Combo requires a certain number of Chasers to pull off. There has to be at least four. However, Ye Xiu intentionally limited the number of times that they exchanged blows, making it impossible for Qiu Fei to produce many Chasers. Qiu Fei is choosing this combo out of helplessness."

"Then what about other combos?"

"Uh... well, if he can get ten or so hits from this combo, then the damage is quite considerable. Qiu Fei probably doesn't want to let this opportunity go so easily."

"Yeah, he's doing well right now."

"Yes, neither too slow nor too fast. It's already his seventh hit."

"Eight."

"Usually, ten hits isn't a problem. We'll have to see how long he can continue."

While the two commentators discussed this, Qiu Fei had already reached ten hits. He stared at the screen, not daring to relax. He knew the difficulty of this combo and he knew how well his opponent understood it, but it was exactly because of his opponent's mastery over it that he could develop this combo into an unbreakable one.

Ten hits!

The passing line had been reached. Qiu Fei still didn't relax. It was a rare opportunity, and he needed to do as much as he could with it.

Eleven, twelve, thirteen....

The combo continued. Truthfully speaking, Qiu Fei didn't feel like it was that difficult. His brain seemed to be frozen. He was no longer thinking. His fingers moved instinctively, making it so that Lord Grim never left his spear's tip, making it so that the Chasers constantly flew about ready to use at any time.

Fifteen, sixteen. Qiu Fei felt excited. He felt like his condition today was extraordinary. Originally, he had been planning on finding an opportunity to end it with a high-level skill when it was about time, but he felt like he could keep going on.

All the way until death?

Pan Lin and Li Yibo started discussing this topic. The viewers were hoping for it, but Qiu Fei wasn't thinking about that.

One more hit!

That was the only thought occupying his mind. One more hit. He single mindedly pursued each hit, and he succeeded hit after hit all the way until twenty!

Qiu Fei's Combat Form, facing a Battle Mage master, had performed a twenty hit combo.

This was more than enough to make the crowd go wild with cheers. Excellent Era's fans felt incomparably proud. They had such a talented player! They felt like they were invincible.

But at the twenty-first hit, there was finally a slight deviation.

No one discovered this deviation. Not even Qiu Fei did. He had already started his attack. The commentators and viewers were all waiting for this attack to strike.

But when this attack came, Qiu Fei saw Lord Grim's movements.

Twenty second hit?

Qiu Fei was the first to question it.

The attack hit, but Lord Grim had already transformed into smoke.

Shadow Clone Technique!

When Qiu Fei realized it, the first thing he thought of was his back. However, the attack came from beneath.

Underground Tunneling Technique!

Lord Grim tunneled out from the earth and attacked. He followed up with a Knee Strike to send Combat Form up into the air. The combo started and in an instant, the comboer and comboed switched positions. Combat Form floated in the air as Lord Grim started his combo performance.

The crowd had been counting Qiu Fei's combo. When they were about to shout twenty two, Lord Grim's clone was destroyed and the words were stuck in their throat. In an instant, the combo count was reset. It was no longer Combat Form comboing.

"What a pity." Pan Lin wasn't worried about Qiu Fei. He was just sad that the brilliant combo had been interrupted.

"Being able to execute such a combo against Ye Xiu as a Battle Mage is already very outstanding. Only Ye Xiu would have been able to seize that tiny opening."

Li Yibo said solemnly, but where had that tiny opening even been? He had absolutely no idea. He didn't even know, and he said with certainty that Qiu Fei had exposed an opening. Ultimately, it was because he was also convinced that the original combo studied meticulously by Ye Xiu was unbreakable if performed perfectly.

Chapter 1014: Can't Tell

The commentators had a lot to say to the audience on the combos of a battle mage, but when Lord Grim begin his offensive, Pan Lin was only able to keep up with announcing the skills for a while before he fell silent once more. The same thing had happened twice in one match: being forced to shut up because he couldn't keep up with the pace of the actual match.

The last time, Qiu Fei had unexpectedly used a level 75 new skill, interrupting Lord Grim's combo, but this time, he didn't seem to be able to find a similar opportunity. Combat Form was airborne, as if suspended there. Lord Grim darted about him, landing different skills on him continuously.

"Uh... This..." Pan Lin felt like he should say something. After switching to Qiu Fei's view, he spoke up with some uncertainty. "He's using Vanishing Steps, right?"

"Yes, it's Vanishing Steps." Li Yibo was much more confident on this than Pan Lin.

However, after confirming this, the two couldn't help but exchange a glance. They had both realized something was a little strange.

No matter when a high-end technique like Vanishing Step was used, it would count as a climax to the match. So shouldn't they commentate about this with some sort of passion?

Yet what did they do? They were both unnaturally calm. This was because the person on the field was called Ye Xiu. To a normal player using Vanishing Step was a climax, but Ye Xiu using Vanishing Step, wasn't that as simple as eating?

In reality, both of them knew that was too much of an exaggeration. No matter who was behind it, the use of Vanishing Step would never be as easy as eating. Like a software that a CPU could only use smoothly when at 90%. Even if Ye Xiu had better hardware, there was still a limit to his actual abilities. Comparing him to the other Gods of the Alliance, on par was the best description.

Yet when Ye Xiu used these high-end techniques, Pan Lin and Li Yibo would think it very normal. If it was another God, like Wang Jiexi, Huang Shaotian, Zhou Zekai, no matter who it was, Pan Lin would probably be willing to yell about it until his voice gave out.

That was what you called influence.

In the hearts of these people, who had been with Glory for a long time, there would always be an unshakable and powerful figure, and that figure was, without a doubt, Ye Xiu. When he accomplished something extraordinary, people had higher expectations of him, and what was extraordinary became ordinary.

It's just a Vanishing Step, that's all.

If someone dared say that casually, they'd probably get slapped by the millions of people that played Glory.

But when you added Ye Xiu to the sentence, it suddenly seemed much more reasonable.

It was because of this that Pan Lin and Li Yibo kept their cool when Ye Xiu used Vanishing Step. By then, the program director had cut the shot to Qiu Fei's view already, waiting for them to commentate on this spectacular moment.

"So, Vanishing Step, what Ye Xiu is using right now is actually a very high end technique, Vanishing Step. What we're currently broadcasting is Qiu Fei's view. You can see here that Lord Grim's figure never appears in Qiu Fei's view. Huh?"

Just as Pan Lin said this, Lord Grim's figure appeared in Qiu Fei's view.

"Chance!" It was then that excitement got to Pan Lin and he suddenly yelled.

The broadcasted shot switched back to the battle at large: Combat Form was still suspended in the air, Lord Grim was still darting about, his attacks not stopping... The situation hadn't changed at all.

"Ah, what a shame!" Pan Lin sighed. He thought that it was Qiu Fei who had missed the opportunity. Li Yibo coughed a little, but couldn't really correct Pan Lin on this. They were live!

The so-called chance that Pan Lin had been yelling about, wasn't actually any sort of opportunity. The foundations to the Vanishing Step were built on finding an opponent's blind spot and attacking from there. Here, landing the attack was the ultimate goal and walking into the opponent's blindspot was simply a method to achieve this goal more easily. So, when you could easily hit an opponent, there was no need to expend any excessive effort into finding the said blindspot.

The reason Lord Grim had wandered into Qiu Fei's view was because in that moment, there was no need for him to conceal his attack using Qiu Fei's blindspot.

He actually managed to do that!

If he didn't check Qiu Fei's view, there was no way Li Yibo would've noticed that. After noticing it, Li Yibo was shaken. He didn't know that Ye Xiu had managed to reach this stage with this skill. Using Vanishing Step continuously was also very tiring. If one was able to use it like this, then it would reduce a lot of unneeded mechanics and effort, but at the same time, there was a lot more precision and accuracy needed in terms of judgement and awareness.

Li Yibo was certain that no player in the current Alliance was able to use Vanishing Step so masterfully. Li Yibo felt that what he had just seen was a coincidence with Ye Xiu's actions. If it really had been used purposeful, then that was terrifying. At the age Ye Xiu was at, he was already approaching the end of his pro career, yet his technical ability was still at such heights. It was terrifying even to think about it.

Suddenly, Li Yibo felt that the broadcasting room was rather cold.

"Chance!" It was then that Li Yibo heard Pan Lin yell out in disappointment again. He, on the other hand, had gotten completely distracted and had no idea what had just happened. He couldn't really go and ask, so he could only say, "Such a shame. He really shouldn't have missed that opportunity either."

"Yeah, Qiu Fei has already wasted two good chances," Pan Lin said.

Two?

Li Yibo was stunned, but quickly recovered. Pan Lin was still making Lord Grim's appearance in Qiu Fei's vision during the Vanishing Step out to be an error on Ye Xiu's part, and a chance for Qiu Fei! It wasn't a good time for him to rain on that parade, but he didn't want the experienced people watching the tv broadcast thinking that he, Li Yibo, wasn't up to standard, unable to even notice something like this.

He felt conflicted, but what he heard was Pan Lin counting Lord Grim's combo. He couldn't keep up with the pace with the skill names, but he could easily count it. One, two, three, four, five...

Wait, one two three four five? Why was the count resetting?

Li Yibo had missed too much while he had been momentarily distracted, and hadn't even managed to catch up when Pan Lin yelled out again, "Ah! It broke, chance chance chance chance... Ay, what's wrong with you, Qiu Fei!"

Pan Lin's tone was extremely frustrated, and Li Yibo kept an eye on the match this time. Just now, Lord Grim's combo really did break and Qiu Fei didn't take the chance to counterattack either.

"This really shouldn't have happened," Li Yibo commented, "Although Qiu Fei is a player without much experience in official matches, he should still have the ability and awareness to try and grasp this chance. However, from Combat Form's movements, it doesn't seem if he even intended to even try."

"Yes, starting from Ye Xiu's counterattack until now, Qiu Fei has already missed three chances to turn the tables. Seems like this young player is a little too young. His rhythm has been messed up by Ye Xiu's single wave of counterattacks!"

"It won't be easy for him to get back into the right mindset in this sort of desperate situation."

"That's very true!"

In the audience, Liu Xiaobie was watching the projection while listening to what was coming from his earphones. However, at that moment, he pulled them down with an expression of disdain. "What bullshit."

"What's up?" Xu Bin turned his head around to ask. Liu Xiaobie had found the Excellent Era fans too noisy so he put his earphones in. He watched the match occurring in stadium, but he was listening to the commentary on his phone. Then he had heard the two analyzing the current situation and didn't know how to react to it.

"Those two guys! They said Qiu Fei missed three chances," Liu Xiaobie said.

"Three chances? Which three?" Xu Bin was puzzled.

"The first time was when Lord Grim's figure appeared in the shot of Qiu Fei's view. They thought that this was an error in mechanics on Ye Xiu's part, that it was one of the chances," Liu Xiaobie said.

"That... wasn't that because there was no need to use Vanishing Steps to attack?"

"Right? And the two false combos, they thought that the combo had been broken and it was a chance to counterattack," Liu Xiaobie continued.

Even Gao Yingjie stared wide eyed, obviously finding this unbelievable.

Xu Bin, hearing this, just smiled. "It's natural that they can't tell with their lack of skill."

"But that's not what they think," Liu Xiaobie said.

"Yeah, so why are you listening to live commentary! Isn't it much clearer if you just look yourself?" Xu Bin said.

"These guys are too noisy, though," Liu Xiaobie said.

"Currently it isn't very noisy, right?" Xu Bin smiled.

It naturally wouldn't be very noisy right now. Ye Xiu had successfully counterattacked and his offense still hadn't stopped yet. Seeing Combat Form's life falling continuously, the Excellent Era fans were extremely anxious.

"I'm really not sure what they're expecting. Do they really think this rookie can wipe out Ye Qiu... er, Ye Xiu?" Liu Xiaobie said.

"So long as it's a match, nothing's impossible!" Xu Bin said.

"But at least don't hold such high hopes!" Liu Xiaobie said.

"I say, you seem to have high hopes for Happy defeating Excellent Era. According to your logic, you shouldn't hold such high hopes either!" Xu Bin said.

"No I don't..." Liu Xiaobie's retort was weak. "How about you, Little Gao."

"What are you trying to make him say?" Xu Bin didn't know if he should cry or laugh. This change of topic was a little too random, no?

"He really is strong." Gao Yingjie really did say something.

"Are you talking about that Qiu Fei?" Liu Xiaobie said.

"Do you think it's necessary to point out that God Ye Qiu is strong?" Xu Bin mocked.

"It's Ye Xiu," Liu Xiaobie nitpicked.

Xu Bin smiled. Ye Xiu or Ye Qiu, names were just a way to refer to people. They weren't important. He didn't care, so he still used Ye Qiu out of habit.

"As for this young man..." Liu Xiaobie began considering this seriously after hearing Gao Yingjie's comment. "He really is quite strong." He nodded, saying, "I think he'll be a strong rival for you in the future."

"He already is," Gao Yingjie said.

"Let's see how he deals with the current situation for now!" Liu Xiaobie said.

"If it was you, what would you do?" Xu Bin asked.

Liu Xiaobie didn't reply and Xu Bin didn't pry. In reality, all three of them were already thinking about what they would do in this situation if they were the ones on the field.

Chapter 1015: All Out

False combo.

This technique wasn't like Vanishing Step. Vanishing Step was a purely high-level technique. It was only possible to perform when the user's experience, awareness, and tech skill reached a certain level.

False combos were completely different. It wasn't just pro players that could do them. Even normal players often linked skills with false combos. This technique was similar to the previous Battle Mage combo executed by Qiu Fei. The skill floor was low. Anyone could follow that approach and do a short combo, but making a 20 hit true combo that was impossible to break, even by a God like Ye Xiu, wasn't so easy to perform. Even Qiu Fei himself probably wouldn't be able to replicate it if he tried again. Back in the old days, Ye Xiu's zero to death combo on his opponent had only been performed once.

It was because of the endless possibilities that made Glory so fun to watch.

False combos had its own unique characteristic. Everyone could use them, but when it was used, even the commentators and analysts might not be able to recognize it. Even the pro players fighting needed to ponder over it.

The three Team Tiny Herb players among the spectating crowd knew that these were false combos. Qiu Fei naturally knew it even better than them. False combos weren't counted by the system, but for a player, false combos were even more difficult to deal with because the theory behind false combos lay in the player being unable to make any sort of counterplay. Along with Vanishing Step, Qiu Fei was in extremely dire straits. The poor crowd was also unaware though. The commentators misled the viewers. They saw that the combo counter had clearly reset, but Qiu Fei failed to counterattack. Ye Xiu would then quickly start his combo count again. Everyone felt sorry for Qiu Fei.

How could they know? It was actually the hardest to deal with when the combo count reset.

As a result, when this scene happened for the third time, the crowd started letting out sounds of dissatisfaction. Li Yibo noticed that something wasn't right.

After retiring, Li Yibo didn't study Glory as devotedly as he had before. He was already having trouble keeping up with the times. When he commentated a match, there were often times when he felt like he was inadequate. However, at these times, this guy would reassure himself and activate the plausible-explanation high-level skill. When he saw the combo reset again and Qiu Fei still being helpless, Li Yibo's intuition told him: it's time to activate that skill.

He carefully studied this combo reset and the two previous ones. Li Yibo had once been a pro player and knew a lot about false combos. After analyzing it for a bit, he finally came to a realization.

F*ck. I really do need to activate that skill. Li Yibo felt somewhat annoyed.

Beside him, Pan Lin was still wondering if there was a problem with Qiu Fei. Li Yibo lightly coughed.

Pan Lin's heart suddenly became tense. Mother of god! Li Yibo is casting his high-level skill! If Li Yibo was preparing to use his skill, then it meant that they had previously said something wrong.

"This is... Qiu Fei seems to have been out of form for awhile now. Could something have happened to him? In order to be cautious, I think we should do a careful recap." Li Yibo said.

Pan Lin listened and knew that the high-level skill was imminent. As expected, Li Yibo carefully analyzed the previous sections and came to the conclusion: it was because of false combos.

"So it's like that....." Pan Lin could only go along with it. He felt somewhat ashamed for his previously misleading commentary. He didn't have Li Yibo's thick skin and couldn't calmly say that it was originally like this and that. It was as if their mistakes hadn't been committed by them.

"False combos aren't counted by the system, but practically speaking, they should also be considered combos. If we count those... then Combat Form has been struck by a 32 hit combo already. Of course, these 32 hits are just an informal calculation. It won't be listed as a statistic. I just wanted everyone to know about it." Li Yibo said.

"How is Qiu Fei going to break out of the 32 hit combo?" Pan Lin's focus returned to the match.

How is it going to be broken?

As soon as these words were said, Lord Grim's combo count reset. Combat Form once again fell into a predicament. This was the fourth false combo.

It really is difficult.....

Qiu Fei wasn't like what the crowd thought. He wasn't doing nothing and standing there taking the beating. He had been trying his best the entire time, trying to think of a way to break free from his predicament. He just hadn't rashly used any skills yet. Mashing random keys when the situation wasn't right was a noob's method. Pro players would never do that because... skills were most threatening when not used.

Qiu Fei remembered these words. These words had been said by the opponent in front of him and had helped him eliminate many of his bad habits in the beginning.

He was unable to return the favor to his coach. He could only prove himself through victory.

These were Qiu Fei's thoughts. He didn't say them out loud because he knew that the other side knew. Both sides were going all out in this match. This was the best proof.

What were his old coach's efforts for? Wasn't it for all of this moment on the stage?

After Combat Form was dealt two devastating combos by his opponent, he didn't have much health left. At this moment, other players might have given up already. They probably wouldn't go so far as to randomly start mashing their keyboard, but they would almost be at that point. However, Qiu Fei didn't think about it. He hoped to see this match through with a professional attitude. He would clearly be aware of what he was doing at all times. These words... were probably also said by Ye Xiu.

It just that now, everything he could do had already been completely sealed.

This was a true match. It was no longer a coaching one inside the team. The other side wouldn't hold back and give him room to guide him. The other side would do his best not to give him any opportunities.

Opportunities were sometimes seized, but opportunities sometimes needed to be created!

Dragon Rises from the Sea!

Combat Form, who had been taking a beating the entire time, suddenly moved. A spear came downwind and magic undulations spread like waves as the spear stabbed forward.

It was just that... the direction of this attack was slightly off. Ye Xiu was using Vanishing Step, so Qiu Fei couldn't see him. This attack had been purely a guess. Unfortunately, he guessed incorrectly.

Another attack from Lord Grim fell onto Combat Form, but at this moment, Combat Form boldly used Cloud Whirling Windstorm!

A high-level skill was released, but the aim was still off. Quite a few people shook their heads. They felt like Qiu Fei had given up and started testing his luck.

To their surprise, Cloud Whirling Windstorm's magic undulations, along with the waves from Dragon Rises from the Sea, collided. Clouds and mist seemed to form at their intersection. Combat Form's figure suddenly became hazy.

"This is?" Everyone was stunned. They had never seen this scene before.

New technique?

These two words popped up in everyone's eyes. Pan Lin had already started yelling.

"Dragon Rises from the Sea and Cloud Whirlwind Windstorm can produce such an effect! I've never seen this combo before. It's a combination created by Qiu Fei while facing a predicament. The collision between these two skills produce an effect that hides the character. This is an opportunity to turn his situation around. Wow....." Pan Lin paused halfway through. On stage, Lord Grim's Myriad Manifestations Umbrella moved and tore through the mist, throwing Combat Form down from the air with a Circle Swing. After Combat Form smashed into the ground, two sweeping attacks followed. Combat Form was still unable to break out of the combo. His created technique didn't seem to be that worthy of praise.

For a moment, Pan Lin was at a loss. Who would have thought that Li Yibo would pick it up: "What a pity. Ye Xiu was still able to catch him. Qiu Fei's usage of these two skills was very successful. Against another opponent, he might have been able to turn the situation around. Unfortunately, his opponent is Ye Xiu. Experience helped Ye Xiu accurately catch his opponent in this situation, but we can see that the situation has at least changed. Ye Xiu was forced to stop using Vanishing Step and false combos. After Qiu Fei created this effect, Ye Xiu couldn't continue his previous combo, which was why he used Circle Swing to pull Combat Form back.

"This young Qiu Fei has shown us his creative talent." Pan Lin immediately followed.

"Yes, he has a boundless future ahead of him. Unfortunately, he'll most likely lose this match. However, he fought well against Ye Xiu, even executing a beautiful 20 hit combo and producing an unknown effect with new skills. Many things can be learned from this match." Li Yibo said.

"Yes, Qiu Fei is making his final effort. He hasn't given up yet."

"But it looks like there isn't much of a chance....."

"Yeah....."

"Okay, Combat Form has fallen. This match has ended with Team Happy's victory. However, besides the deep impression Qiu Fei has given with his performance, he was able to take away about half of Lord Grim's health." Li Yibo said.

"A part of that was from the back and forths in the beginning. In the middle, there was that incredible 20 hit combo and that final struggle at the end.

"Yes, being able to win an opportunity to attack in the final moment is due to his beautiful combination of the two new skills."

"In comparison, Coach Li, what do you think of the winner Ye Xiu's performance?" Pan Lin asked.

"An abundance of experience and correct decision-making." Li Yibo gave seven words as a comment. This was a comment that applied to any player that wasn't a rookie, but what else could Li Yibo say? He didn't understand unspecialized characters at all. If he wanted to give a more detailed analysis, he didn't know where to start. He was depressed that Ye Xiu would still be playing in the next round and show off his unspecialized combos. He could only brace himself and continue commentating. This time, he needed to be more careful. He couldn't make a mistake like not seeing a false combo.

The commentators treated Ye Xiu's matches as a formidable enemy. As for Team Excellent Era, after Qiu Fei came down, the player who stood up was their ace player and team captain of the new generation: Sun Xiang.

Chapter 1016: You're Too Hard to Predict

"You played well." Sun Xiang actually acted like a captain for once and comforted Qiu Fei, who was returning to the bench. Qiu Fei smiled, but didn't say anything before returning to his seat, but his gaze was aimed at Excellent Era's competition booth. On the field, they didn't have any way to communicate with words. Everything was based on their mechanics, attacks, defense, movement, and dodges. In this match, Qiu Fei had given it his all, but still lost. However, there would always be defeat in competition. He might've lost this time, but next time he'd win for certain, no matter who he was up against.

After giving his encouragement to one of their players, he casually glanced towards Happy and suddenly raised his voice. "It's just a shame that you left a Ye Qiu with only half his health for me. Even if I win, there will be no honor in it! Well, there's no helping it, seems like all I can do is clear him off quickly!"

Chen Guo's temper flared. If she had something in her hand, she'd have thrown it at him by now. After calling out arrogantly, Sun Xiang walked towards the competition booth with his head held high. Pan Lin and Li Yibo had also begun commentating on the line ups of each team in the television broadcast.

"Sun Xiang is the third to go up. If we consider this, then Excellent Era's plans for the group arena is clear. They want to finish the group arena up in three rounds, hoping to earn at least three points," Pan Lin said.

"Yes, considering the new rules, three points is an absolute advantage in the group arena. Two points can be considered being one step ahead and one point doesn't have much impact. You have to fight with your all in the team competition. If you lose, then the opponent has at least one point and the two sides will have to play a matchbreaker," Li Yibo said.

"If you can have the security that you at least won't lose, that counts as a psychological advantage, doesn't it?" Pan Lin said.

"This sort of psychological advantage will only matter towards the very end," Li Yibo said.

"Under the current rules, the team ace should appear fourth or third. Excellent Era has placed Sun Xiang as their third player, a very standard offensive arrangement. However, from the current situation, I feel like they could have been a little more daring and placed him second," Pan Lin said.

"I think Excellent Era is still wary about Ye Xiu's strength. If it were any other God, they could be a bit more offensive, but Ye Xiu knows them all too well," Li Yibo said.

"But they also know Ye Xiu very well!" Pan Lin said.

"Unfortunately, Ye Xiu has changed classes since then," Li Yibo said with a smile.

"Ok, now Sun Xiang has entered the competition booth and the two characters are being loaded into the game. On Excellent Era's side, we have Excellent Era's current captain, Sun Xiang with his account, One Autumn Leaf! And on Happy's side, his opponent is the ex-captain of Excellent Era, Ye Qiu, now called Ye Xiu, and One Autumn Leaf's previous owner." As Sun Xiang entered the stage, the match entered the preparation stage and Pan Lin excitedly began to introduce them. His words reflected what angle the audience's anticipation came from. Sun Xiang's identity and account were clearly emphasized. As for Ye Xiu? His old identity and old account were emphasized. Lord Grim, Happy, these crucial words that should've appeared in the introduction hadn't been mentioned once.

"Now for the countdown; the match is about to begin," Pan Lin said.

"This is a battle between the current and ex captain of Excellent Era! The account, One Autumn Leaf, that was once Ye Xiu's companion for so long is now in Sun Xiang's hands and has become the opponent Ye Xiu has to defeat. I wonder how he feels, facing this familiar and, you could say, closest ally. How will he perform?" As if afraid that someone wouldn't be able to catch the drama behind this match, Pan Lin went over the highlights again as the match officially started.

The two characters appeared on the map simultaneously. Without hesitation, Sun Xiang immediately pushed One Autumn Leaf into a sprint, foregoing strategic positioning entirely. Sun Xiang had thought and felt that it would be a shame that he would probably not have a chance to face Ye Xiu in an official match using One Autumn Leaf. He really wanted to use a spectacular victory to establish his ownership over One Autumn Leaf, and the previous user Ye Xiu was the best stepping stone in his eyes.

He hadn't thought that, after a year and a half, he really did get the chance to meet Ye Xiu in an official match. Though this stage wasn't as impressive as he had hoped for, the amount of attention this match had gained was satisfactory. Especially all the publicity done by the media, it made this all the more appropriate opportunity to perform his sacrifice.

However, due to the new rules, he couldn't have Ye Xiu duel him one on one. He could only act in accordance with the rules. Now, he had finally got the chance to face off against Ye Xiu. It was a shame that Ye Xiu was already at half health from his fight with Qiu Fei. This was frustrating to Sun Xiang. If he could be second in line, that would have been perfect. However, the team wanted to emphasize security, so he had to be third. This was agreed on by their boss, Tao Xun, making it so that Sun Xiang couldn't object.

Now look. Their victory was secured, but his perfect plan to crush Ye Xiu was completely ruined. There was no honor in winning against a Ye Xiu with only half his health!

"Where are you, Ye Xiu? Stop hiding, come out and fight me." Sun Xiang pressed forward with One Autumn Leaf towards the center of the map. Not seeing Lord Grim, he immediately went to yell at Ye Xiu in the public chat.

"Don't rush me, I'm recovering my health," Ye Xiu replied.

Recovering health? Sun Xiang was stunned for a moment. He had no idea that the stadium was filled with booing now. From the very beginning of the match, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim never advanced. With a shamelessness that rivaled his teammate, Wei Chen, he had hid in a corner and began to heal himself.

That's right, heal himself. Though Unspecialized could only use level 20 and under skills, but, for the players to fully experience the differences between classes, these low leveled skills displayed their class' distinctiveness. Clerics had two level 20 and under healing skills. Small Heal and Small Cure. One was a chant to recover health and the other was an instant cast. Though the effects weren't as good as high level healing spells, even level 75 Clerics still needed to utilize these two skills. Low level skills had advantages that high level skills didn't. Small Heals had a shorter chant, and Small Cure had a shorter cooldown.

In the pro scene, these advantages were very crucial. They often needed to be able to quickly use skills. By the time the slow chant of a Holy Heal was complete, the one who needed the heal might've died already.

The current Ye Xiu didn't use any Small Cures. Instant casts like this had cooldowns, and they usually weren't very short, so they were usually saved for dire situations, but chants were alright. They didn't have cooldowns so Lord Grim was chanting continuously, the white flash of a Small Heal hadn't dimmed since the round began.

Apart from that, Lord Grim had a Recover on him, too! He could use skills from all 24 classes. Amongst the 24 classes, Paladins could also heal! Recover was a low level Paladin skill, and was a healing buff, a legendary ability that even Clerics were jealous of. While on a character, that character would be healed every three seconds for a total of 18 seconds. Currently, Lord Grim's health stayed at a rhythm of jumping up once every three seconds. This made it hard to tell what rank his Recover was. This guy wasn't stopping with the heals at all.

Apart from the boos of the Excellent Era fans, this scene elicited a heartfelt speechlessness from everyone present.

Bringing healing to a one on one? It wasn't unheard of. While Clerics and Paladins couldn't really fight one on one, but there were still two other classes in the Priest class category, Knights and Exorcists.

Level 20 and under skills were usable throughout the same class type, that meant Knights and Exorcists could also learn and use these healing skills.

Did that mean you were invincible if you brought healing to a one on one? Those who had some experience knew it wasn't so simple. Knights and Exorcists could learn a few low leveled heals, but their effects were incomparable with Cleric and Paladin healing. First of all, the two had bonuses from class specialization, and then healers also had special equipment to boost their healing. Healing was something unrelated to physical and magic attacks. If Knights and Exorcists wanted to boost their own healing abilities, they'd have to sacrifice other stats. After this sacrifice, no one would feel like it was unfair that they had healing abilities.

So healing in a one on one wasn't very rare, but people like Ye Xiu, who hid their character in a corner to continuously healed themselves without restraint was unheard of. The entire audience was struck dumb.

Even Pan Lin and Li Yibo were speechless for a long time upon seeing Ye Xiu's actions.

This should've been a drama filled match! Look at how pumped Sun Xiang was! Yet Ye Xiu had immediately turned this match down a shameless path.

"Ye Xiu's Lord Grim... is currently healing himself, er..." Pan Lin commentated. His passion from before had been completely extinguished. It wasn't like you could expect him to yell out in excitement "wow, so awesome, this God immediately hid himself away at the beginning of the match and started chanting heals continuously! The healing isn't stopping!" That wasn't something Pan Lin could do.

"Yeah, he's healing..." Li Yibo's comment was also very weak.

"The effects aren't as great as that of a Cleric or Paladin," Pan Lin said.

"Of course, he has no specialization bonus," Li Yibo said.

"He doesn't have any healing equipment either," Pan Lin said.

"He's relying entirely on his stats to heal."

"A shame we don't know if his weapon has any healing bonuses or not."

The two chatted had a discussion without any substance.

"But if he keeps healing, won't that put a huge strain on his mana usage? How is he going to battle after that?" Pan Lin finally found a problem to discuss.

Just as he said this, a blue light descended on Lord Grim.

"This is?" Li Yibo was stunned, and saw Lord Grim's mana suddenly shoot up.

"Wish... Prayer?" Pan Lin stared in shock.

"It's Wish Prayer..." Li Yibo wanted to cry. It was way too hard to commentate for this God's matches. You're too hard to predict!

Chapter 1017: Not That Careless

Wish Prayer - Cleric skill. It recovered 30% of the target's mana over 10 seconds. As the skill level increased, the maximum mana recovery could reach up to 60%. It had a 10 minute cooldown.

Lord Grim was currently casting Wish Prayer. His character's mana was rapidly increasing. Everyone stared with their eyes and jaws wide open.

Let alone in the individual competition, Wish Prayer was rarely used, even in team competitions. Even though it had astonishing effects, a 10 second cast time was way too easy to interrupt. As a result, even if it was used in a team competition, it could only be done when an opportunity arrived, allowing for two or three seconds of recovery at best. But in reality, it was very rare for a team competition to last so long that either side ran out of mana. It was even more rare in the individual competition. Running out of mana was usually only seen in the group arena.

However, Clerics and Paladins didn't play in the group arena. As for Knights and Exorcists, who would add this skill to their weapons as a skill bonus, no one had ever made such an absurd choice.

You're out of mana mid-battle, but you can recover it? And such a substantial one too? It sounded amazing, but in practice, its usage was extremely limited. Setting aside the fact that it was already rare for one to run out of mana, even if it happened, in a 1v1 in the group arena, 10 seconds of standing still would be like treating the opponent like air. If the opponent knew you could do this, it's not like they would just wait for you to recover your mana.

Then what about recovering during the start of the match like what Ye Xiu was doing? In that case, there was enough time. However, this scenario required so many prerequisites that the chances of it happening were next to nothing, so the value of this skill was too miniscule. For a pro player, this type of extravagance could be considered a crime.

As a result, everyone was staring at Lord Grim like they had just witnessed a crime. It was like they were at a crime scene.

The commentator Pan Lin and honored guest Li Yibo were also speechless. As for Sun Xiang? He had no idea that Ye Xiu had used Wish Prayer. Ye Xiu had been talking about healing just before. He had been surprised at first and realized that unspecialized characters had the ability to heal themselves, but he wasn't worried. He felt like beating Ye Xiu, who was only at half health, would be winning with an unfair advantage! It's all good now though. He's giving Ye Xiu some time to breath. Wouldn't that make his victory all the more worthwhile?

Thus, despite knowing that his opponent was recovering, Sun Xiang had One Autumn Leaf stroll over, letting others know that he wasn't worried one bit.

"Haha... Sun Xiang doesn't seem to care about what Ye Xiu is doing..." Pan Lin immediately said after seeing it.

"Yes, he's quite confident." Li Yibo said.

"But might he be a bit overconfident?" Pan Lin wondered.

"Mm, are you talking about Ye Xiu or Sun Xiang?" Li Yibo asked.

Pan Lin looked at Lord Grim recovering his mana and then at One Autumn Leaf strolling over: "Hm, both...."

They couldn't keep going on like this. Was this really a life and death match between two teams? These two guys weren't being serious at all. This was the Challenger League Finals, not two players sparring in-game!

"Wait a second. Let me recover my health and mana."

"Sure, take your time."

These were words that players would often say to each other when sparring, but the same thing was happening in a serious tournament. How weird. How weird.

"Hahahaha..." Pan Lin could only laugh. He didn't know what to say.

At Excellent Era's bench, boss Tao Xuan was personally presiding over the match. His two arms were folded across his chest and his expression was calm. However, if you looked at him closely, you would notice that Tao Xuan's two hands were tightly clutching his own arms.

If he didn't vent his emotions that way, Tao Xuan was truly afraid that he would stomp over in anger. Sun Xiang was a player who he generally liked, but his arrogance truly made his head hurt sometimes.

It's fine..... When Sun Xiang faced other opponents with arrogance and stomped on them, Tao Xuan felt quite good. During those moments, he was fine with Sun Xiang's confidence, even if he did what he was doing now. Tao Xuan might even laugh, feeling like his team was brave and mighty.

But Tao Xuan's attitude was completely different with Ye Xiu being the opponent.

It was a sort of contradictory feeling.

For example, when Xiao Shiqin left the stage with a GG, although Tao Xuan had truly felt pleased with this conduct, he also felt a bit of regret. If Xiao Shiqin had worn Ye Xiu down a bit more, that would have been great too. Xiao Shiqin's behavior made Excellent Era look weak and not like a powerhouse at all!

You can't have it both ways*. This was the contradiction that Tao Xuan felt.

At this moment, Sun Xiang behavior could be regarded as the air of a powerhouse, but seeing Ye Xiu's Lord Grim healing his health and even finishing with a 10 second Wish Prayer without being interrupted, Tao Xuan couldn't stay calm.

Unfortunately, Sun Xiang remained calm. The difference in thinking made him somewhat annoyed.

Fortunately, Ye Xiu didn't continue challenging his heart's limits. After the ten second Wish Prayer, Lord Grim finally came out from the corner.

"Are you here?" Ye Xiu asked in the chat.

"What? You're done recovering?" Sun Xiang replied.

"Pretty much." Ye Xiu said.

"Pretty much? I advise you to recover a bit longer. I'm not in a hurry." Sun Xiang said.

"Huh? What's that sound?" On Excellent Era's bench, one of the players heard a strange noise.

The teammates next to him immediately kicked his foot and gave him a sharp glance. That player looked over and saw the boss grinding his teeth.....

"If I don't remember incorrectly, this is the first time today that the players have chatted with each other." Pan Lin said.

"Yeah, it seems like it." Li Yibo said.

"Hahahaha" Pan Lin chuckled again. The two sides had finally talked to each other, but couldn't the content be a bit more professional? The conversation between Ye Xiu and Sun Xiang was too much like what Pan Lin had imagined normal players to be like.

"It's good enough. I don't want you to lose in such an unsightly manner." Ye Xiu continued to type in the chat.

"Those should be my words to you." Sun Xiang fired back.

"You can keep them!"

"To you!"

"Keep them!"

"To you."

"Keep them."

The crowd was in an uproar. It wasn't because the two were just talking nonsense, but rather during this time, Ye Xiu's Lord Grim quietly circled around to flank One Autumn Leaf.

"With just that weird mix and matched gear, you think you can beat me? You've already forgotten One Autumn Leaf's stats? Do you need me to remind you?" Sun Xiang seemed to be completely engrossed in the chat. His character wasn't moving at all.

"While Ye Xiu and Sun Xiang were talking, Lord Grim circled around to behind One Autumn Leaf. Sun Xiang doesn't seem to be aware of this either. He's just typing in chat. Could it be that Sun Xiang can't touch-type and needs to look at his keyboard to type?" Pan Lin yelled.

"Hahaha..." Li Yibo laughed while glancing at Pan Lin. However, he noticed that Pan Lin was completely serious. That wasn't a joke? You're being serious? A pro player not being able to touch type? Do you think a pro player looks down at his keyboard when playing?

"Close, close. Lord Grim is nearby." Pan Lin shouted. The crowd roared even louder as if to warn Sun Xiang. At Excellent Era's bench, Tao Xuan couldn't bear it anymore. This Sun Xiang was too much of a child!

"Ye Xiu's pathing was successful, but the key point is chatting to divert the enemy's attention. Sun Xiang is in range to be attacked. Is he going to choose to attack? Sun Xiang doesn't seem to know!" Pan Lin shouted.

At this moment, Sun Xiang typed out a new message in the chat.

"We've already chatted for so long. What's going on? Could you be behind me?"

"Woah!" Pan Lin cried out in surprise. Then, he saw One Autumn Leaf turn around directly towards Lord Grim. His spear, Annihilating Evil, pointed forward.

"So it turns out Sun Xiang wasn't as we had imagined... to be so... careless." Pan Lin hesitated. He almost said "stupid".

"Haha, I don't think such a low-level mistake would happen to such a skilled player." Li Yibo acted as if he knew it all along.

Sun Xiang turned around and began his offense.

Dragon Breaks the Ranks!

One Autumn Leaf initiated with the move that Tang Rou liked to use the most, but just from the visual effects, the difference between One Autumn Leaf and Soft Mist could be seen.

Were there any changes to One Autumn Leaf's equipment?

Ye Xiu could see this instantly. One Autumn Leaf had changed a lot of his equipment. Some parts had been completely swapped out. Some had slight changes in appearance. The club's R&D team wasn't going to waste materials solely to change the appearance of equipment. A change in appearance meant a change in stats. In the eyes of the viewers, One Autumn Leaf was still One Autumn Leaf, but for Ye Xiu, who was incomparably familiar with this character, One Autumn Leaf had been changed beyond recognition.

After dodging the Dragon Breaks the Ranks, Lord Grim Aerial Rifled backwards to pull away from One Autumn Leaf.

"Haha, this is you after recovering? It might be too little." Sun Xiang looked at Lord Grim's condition and typed a string of words.

Lord Grim hadn't advanced classes, nor did he wear any healing equipment, so his healing was rather weak. During this time, he had only recovered to 70% health. Because his heals were weak, his mana consumption was high. Ye Xiu couldn't heal to full health. If he did, a Wish Prayer might not be enough to recover his mana.

For a Level 75 character, low-leveled healing skills without a class advancement and without specific healing equipment were very weak.

Chapter 1018: At a Standstill

As Sun Xiang typed this out, his character never paused. One Autumn Leaf did a horizontal sweep with his spear after his Dragon Breaks the Ranks, using Tyrant's Destruction. Lord Grim had already been pulling away when he dodged the Dragon Breaks the Ranks, seeming to already be out Tyrant's Destruction's range and in a good position to counterattack. However, Lord Grim didn't stop backing away there. Just as he stepped back, the mud and stone on the ground were swept across. A place where Tyrant's Destruction shouldn't have reached had been affected by the sweeping effect through the force of this attack.

"Oh oh, this is Evil Annihilation's bonus effect, Landslide, which increases the range of attacks. However, the opponent is Ye Xiu, who obviously knows this better than anyone. You can see that he even considered the effect of Landslide in his dodge."

"The chances of these bonus effects on weapons activating isn't actually very high, but in an actual match it's better to prepare for the worst possibility," Li Yibo sighed.

Boom!

The two were still talking about Tyrant's Destruction when an explosion occurred on the field.

As he backed away, avoiding the attack, Lord Grim had discretely thrown out a grenade. Pan Lin and Li Yibo hadn't noticed at all. It was only until it exploded that everyone gasped in surprise.

The inconspicuous movement had fooled everyone, all except his current opponent, Sun Xiang. One Autumn Leaf's immediate pursuit made a sudden halt in the middle, obviously waiting for the grenade to go off. The timing was just right, so it looked like he had somehow ran right through the explosion, but avoided taking any damage whatsoever, Evil Annihilation still closing in on Lord Grim.

"Sun Xiang is eagerly going on the offensive, but it seems like Ye Xiu doesn't intend to face him head on," Pan Lin cried out.

"That's for certain. Veterans have an advantage in experience. Against young opponents, especially ace players like Sun Xiang, they have to fully utilize this advantage. Facing their opponent head on would be... would be..." Li Yibo was unable to continue, because Pan Lin had only said 'seems like'. This was a guess he had made in accordance with Lord Grim's act of retreat. Yet now, Lord Grim opened up his Myriad Manifestations Umbrella and parried One Autumn Leaf's attack, a true act of facing someone head on.

"Not bad!" In this direct face off, Sun Xiang actually found the time to type a message. One Autumn Leaf stepped diagonally, sending out a Sky Strike from a side angle.

Lord Grim didn't even turn his view, whipping out a sword from the handle of the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella as he jumped diagonally backwards and using a Collapsing Mountain as he avoided Sky Strike.

"Ah, a Collapsing Mountain in place. This is a type of technique that uses a backwards jump to cancel out Collapsing Mountain's forward jump. Ye Xiu is able to perform it with such ease. It's clear to see how familiar he is with the foundations of Glory. He truly deserves his title of Glory's Textbook," Pan Lin called out.

One Autumn Leaf turned, continuing his half-finished Sky Strike and using it to block Lord Grim's Collapsing Mountain. However, Collapsing Mountain had far greater priority than Sky Strike, so it was

impossible to complete this block with just Sky Strike alone. Yet, by then, One Autumn Leaf had already jumped back, avoiding the Collapsing Mountain entirely.

"One Autumn Leaf dodged it... But why did he use this Sky Strike to block, adviser Li?" Pan Lin asked.

"Heh, there's no particular reason. It's just a habit of pro players to help them get into the rhythm of battle quicker," Li Yibo explained.

"I can't stand it anymore!" In the audience, Tiny Herb player Liu Xiaobie had been listening to the commentary on his phone as he watched the match again, but then yanked out his earphones once more.

"What is it this time?" Xu Bin asked.

"They said that there was no reason to One Autumn Leaf's Sky Strike just now," Liu Xiaobie said.

"Oh? That's not right. If it weren't for the block done with that Sky Strike, there would be no avoiding that Collapsing Mountain," Xu Bin said.

"The block done with Sky Strike slowed down the speed at which Collapsing Mountain descended and, at the same time, used the force to speed up his backwards jump," Gao Yingjie said.

"Commentators nowadays are getting more and more unprofessional." Liu Xiaobie put the earphones back in even as he said this and shook his head, making Xu Bin and Gao Yingjie rather speechless.

The battle raged on.

Neither of them managed to gain the advantage. Though both were continuously losing health, this exchange of health was carefully controlled and neither of them managed to land any critical hits. Fine techniques such as the Sky Strike block and Collapsing Mountain in place were endless in this battle. Audience members like the three Tiny Herb pros found it spectacular, but it was a shame for those who were watching the stream. Pan Lin and Li Yibo would probably only see 70 percent of finesse in this and in that 70 percent, they would misexplain 20 percent of it. This was probably one of the problems caused by the late start and rapid progress of the Pro Alliance of Glory.

Though they might have missed many amazing details of this match, that didn't affect the enjoyment for normal spectators. This fast and chaotic rain of attacks from both sides was exactly what the audience loved the most.

However, Tao Xuan, sitting on Excellent Era's bench, was anxious. To be honest, he liked this sort of spectacular match as well. This beautiful scene was exactly what Tao Xuan hoped for for Excellent Era. But... not at a time like this. Who was Sun Xiang's opponent? Ye Xiu! The person, whose ability had deteriorated, whose performance had slipped, who had been replaced by Sun Xiang. To make sure this went smoothly, Tao Xuan had put in a lot of effort. Yet now, Ye Xiu was fighting Sun Xiang to a standstill. This was already slapping Excellent Era's face harshly. Like this, it was hard to say who would win and who would lose. Though Lord Grim had started the match with 70 percent of his health and was at a disadvantage from the beginning, this standstill wouldn't last until the end of the match. There would definitely be fluctuations and peaks in performance in the match, especially from Ye Xiu, who was behind. How could he possibly let himself die slowly in this exchange of damage?

Tao Xuan couldn't stay calm. Even after telling himself that One Autumn Leaf was the stronger character and Sun Xiang was younger and had more energy, he just couldn't build up any confidence when it came to facing Ye Xiu.

"The match is at a standstill right now,"

"Er, I feel, that Lord Grim actually has the slight advantage right now," Li Yibo said.

"How come?" Pan Lin was confused.

"Because the characters have a difference in power. Although the level 75 Orange equipment has helped Happy greatly reduce the gap between them and Excellent Era, this reduction is only in basic stats. However, if you take a detailed look, Orange equipment can't be as perfect as Silver equipment," Li Yibo said.

"But we can also see that Team Happy does have some Silver equipment. Wei Chen's Warlock, Windward Formation, is even at pro level with 8 pieces," Pan Lin argued.

"Heh, but you can't judge Silver equipment just by the number of pieces of Silver equipment you have. What's the biggest advantage of Silver equipment? They're specially tailored to suit the player. Only if it suits the user's playstyle and needs can it be utilized to its fullest. In contrast, if a piece of Silver equipment isn't tailored to their needs and only made to maximize stats, it would still be stronger than Orange equipment of the same level, but it will lose its greatest advantage. Some players like faster attack speed, some players want each strike to do more damage. If you give attack power equipment to a player that prefers speed, the equipment is good, but it doesn't suit their style, so how well can its stats truly be utilized?" Li Yibo smoothly explained.

"I understand now. You mean to say that Team Happy's Silver equipment might not necessarily have reached that level of specialization," Pan Lin said.

"Heh, first of all, Team Happy doesn't have that much Silver Equipment. In addition, we don't know how Happy obtained their Silver equipment, but I doubt that they have a development team working on it like Excellent Era does. So they don't really have much flexibility with their Silver equipment. If they have Silver equipment then they will use it. They don't have much choice. It'll be very hard for them to reach perfection!" Li Yibo exclaimed.

"You're very right, Adviser Li. If we look at it from this perspective, it'd actually be very hard on Ye Xiu to have Lord Grim fight Sun Xiang's One Autumn Leaf to a standstill. It's hard to believe that he still has this ability at this age," Pan Lin said.

"In the end, all matches depend on performance. When we say a player's ability is deteriorating, we don't get that conclusion from just one or two matches, but from a long period of observation. In this period, he might perform spectacularly sometimes. This sort of fluctuation is common for everyone. The performance in single match can't really tell us anything. Zhou Zekai might lose in a one on one battle, but can we say that the player that beat him is now the new best player in the Alliance?" Li Yibo said with a smile.

"I understand what you mean now." Pan Lin nodded.

"Okay, let's continue watching the match. The two are still at a standstill and both characters have lost around 20 percent of their health. However, since Lord Grim only had 70 percent in the beginning, he's currently falling behind. Hey, Adviser Li, do you think Ye Xiu will suddenly escape halfway through the battle to replenish his health and mana again?" Pan Lin suddenly asked.

"I doubt Sun Xiang will give him the opportunity to do that. If he's going to let his opponent run away to heal so easily, then I'll probably even be able to beat him."

"Hahahaha." The two began to laugh in the live broadcast.

That was when Sun Xiang typed out another sentence in the channel. "I say, isn't it time to speed up now?"

"Speed up?" Pan Lin yelled out in shock. "Does this mean Sun Xiang hasn't been going all out before now?"

"This... is probably a purposeful suppression of the rhythm so he can suddenly speed up and throw his opponent into chaos!" Li Yibo said.

"Speaking of, the two sides seem to be doing a lot of communicating in this match!" Pan Lin said.

"Yeah, Sun Xiang usually doesn't say much in matches! This is surprising. Seems like Ye Xiu is a very different kind of opponent for Excellent Era. From the conversation between the captains of new and old, Sun Xiang probably hopes to prove he can do better than Ye Xiu with a victory here!" Li Yibo guessed.

"So, is he going to speed up?" Pan Lin asked in excited hope.

Chapter 1019: Wound

Shattering the Land!

The Level 75 Battle Mage skill was heroically used by One Autumn Leaf, clashing against Lord Grim's attack. One Autumn Leaf's powerful equipment was displayed. Lord Grim's attack should have possessed a short hitstun effect, but the hitstun couldn't even be seen. Even though it hurt One Autumn Leaf, it didn't stop the skill from coming out.

He already has a clear grasp of my character's stats!

Ye Xiu thought to himself. Due to Lord Grim's full set of Orange equipment, Lord Grim's stats weren't a secret. The only variable was the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella. If this were a normal weapon, Sun Xiang would have most likely grasped the weapon's stats much faster, but because the Myriad Manifestations Umbrella had many forms each with different stats, more effort was needed. However, daring to take the attack while using Shattering the Land meant that Sun Xiang had a solid understanding of Lord Grim's stats. Sun Xiang knew that his attack would be unable to interrupt One Autumn Leaf's skill.

Sure enough, despite Lord Grim's attack dealing damage, One Autumn Leaf remained unmoved. Shattering the Lands came out. One Autumn Leaf thrust his spear into the ground and then pulled it

back. A wave spread out in a circle around One Autumn Leaf. Compared to Qiu Fei's Combat Form, the power was one step higher. The Battle God One Autumn Leaf's might truly began to show.

Sun Xiang's timing was on point. His luck burst forth too. His spear, Evil Annihilation, triggered Landslide, increasing Shattering the Land's attack range. For a high-level skill that already possessed high killing power, the addition the Landslide effect only made it more obvious.

Lord Grim was unable to escape from the skill's wide range and was sent flying into the air along with dirt and stone. This was just Sun Xiang's opening move too. One Autumn Leaf ran behind Lord Grim and stabbed towards Lord Grim's heart from the back with a Furious Dragon Strikes the Heart.

Getting behind the opponent was a move that pro players always did when comboing. First, it increased the damage due to it being a back attack. Second, it was harder to defend strikes from behind. These types of movements could be considered as a beginner-level Vanishing Step. The difference was that the goal of Vanishing Step was to combo the opponent without the opponent knowing the user's location, so it wasn't as simple as a back attack.

This Furious Dragon Strikes the Heart was extremely sharp. A sneak attack from the back might have been impossible for anyone else to defend against, but Ye Xiu was too familiar with Battle Mages. He didn't even need to look. He could just listen to know that it was a Furious Dragon Strikes the Heart coming from behind him. He had distinguished it even amidst the quaking noise caused by Shattering the Lands.

Without turning around, Lord Grim put his umbrella on his shoulder. With a whoosh, the umbrella canopy opened up into its shield form to block the attack. Ye Xiu didn't have any other options available. Sun Xiang was too fast, and One Autumn Leaf's attack was also ferocious. Ye Xiu didn't have time to do any complicated motions.

The shield form was the lightest of the shields. Even though its ability to reduce damage wasn't bad, its priority was simply too low. After taking this Furious Dragon Strikes the Heart, Lord Grim was launched even higher into the air.

Sun Xiang targeted where Lord Grim would fall and had One Autumn Leaf wait over there, but then he saw Lord Grim retract the canopy of the umbrella on his shoulder and saw the umbrella ribs start to spin into a Rotor Wing.

Sun Xiang wasn't going to let him go. Even though One Autumn Leaf couldn't fly, Lord Grim couldn't fly forever. Rotor Wings had a limited skill duration. The flight speed wasn't fast either. One Autumn Leaf firmly chased after Lord Grim.

Who would have imagined that Lord Grim was only faking it. After tricking Sun Xiang to take a few steps forward, he quietly dropped a grenade without warning.

"Haha." Sun Xiang even type a sneering emoji. One Autumn Leaf turned around. Evil Annihilation swung up and moved along a beautiful arc, directly striking the grenade mid-air.

Amidst the cover of the explosion, Lord Grim disappeared without a trace.

Not good!

Sun Xiang's heart tensed. He didn't dare be negligent and hastily moved to pull away. Three Anti-Tank Missiles fell from the sky. Using the cover of the explosion, Lord Grim shot them in a triangle, trapping One Autumn Leaf in the middle.

Sun Xiang's frightening mechanics were displayed at this moment. The three Anti-Tank Missiles were shot in a tight formation, yet this guy was actually able to get One Autumn Leaf to slip through the tiniest gap between two of them to dodge the missiles.

Beautiful! However, no applause came. With their omniscient view, they could already see it clearly. Lord Grim had used Shadow Clone Technique to return to the ground. As for One Autumn Leaf? He was looking up in the air, attacking the clone.

Blood splattered.

When an Assassin or a Ninja approached an unsuspecting target, even a God couldn't escape from the sneak attack because the attack came without any warning.

Only then did Sun Xiang realize he had fallen for it. One Autumn Leaf rushed forward, while turning around and slashing with his spear. He first had to get away from his opponent before doing anything else, but when he turned around, there was no sign of Lord Grim. There were only so many skills that could make a character disappear. However... with 24 classes, there were too many skills to search through. Sun Xiang already reacted quite quickly, but it was still too late. By the time One Autumn Leaf jumped up and stabbed down with his spear, Lord Grim had already tunneled out from the ground.

Underground Tunneling Technique!

Ye Xiu had used this move against Qiu Fei. Through his memory of that, Sun Xiang was able to make an accurate decision. Unfortunately, he was slightly too slow. Ye Xiu struck first. Lord Grim came out of the ground, dodged Evil Annihilation, and once again slashed at One Autumn Leaf's neck.

Then, a Falling Flower Palm.

Ye Xiu didn't use the same move set as he did against Qiu Fei. Instead, he used a Falling Flower Palm to throw One Autumn Leaf backwards. Sun Xiang had grasped Lord Grim's stats. How could Ye Xiu not also grasp the completely reworked One Autumn Leaf?

Were all of these changes to fit to Sun Xiang's style? It didn't seem like it in Ye Xiu's eyes. Sun Xiang's Battle Mage playstyle wasn't anything original. From how Sun Xiang played, Ye Xiu could even see images of himself. And for that type of playstyle, One Autumn Leaf's original set of Silver equipment had been the most optimal. The new level cap didn't revolutionize any sort of new playstyle, so the equipment configuration didn't need to be altered at all. The only thing that needed to be done was upgrade the level and stats of the silver equipment.

However, Ye Xiu noticed that One Autumn Leaf avoided this approach. If it was just to fit Sun Xiang's playstyle, then there didn't need to make such drastic changes. Then why did they do it? Ye Xiu had a good guess. Excellent Era wanted Ye Xiu to face an unfamiliar One Autumn Leaf. They didn't want Ye Xiu to have the advantage of being too familiar with the character.

They succeeded. Ye Xiu was very unfamiliar with this One Autumn Leaf. As for Sun Xiang? Even though he had enough time to familiarize himself with it, that didn't mean it was completely suitable for him

either. This completely changed One Autumn Leaf made it so he no longer knew the enemy anymore, but it also lowered Sun Xiang's synchronization to the character at the same time.

This was a double-edged sword. For now, the damage to Ye Xiu was greater. Ye Xiu lost a huge advantage.

As for Excellent Era's wound? If it was just limited to Sun Xiang's capabilities, then the wound wasn't that big. Sun Xiang just wasn't able to reach his maximum potential. That didn't mean he was terrible all of a sudden. If switching a character made a pro player's skill level drop to zero, then that pro player was too awful to be considered a pro.

This wound needed to be made bigger! That wasn't easy to do though.

Just knowing that Sun Xiang was unable to play to the best of his ability wasn't really going to help Ye Xiu win. What he needed to figure out was why Sun Xiang couldn't play at his peak and what Sun Xiang was being limited by. This was how he would beat a strong opponent.

The price he would need to pay to find the answer would be extremely high. It required him to take Sun Xiang's different attacks.

Lord Grim didn't have much health remaining though and was on the losing end. By the time he found the answer, would it be too late to counter attack?

Nothing was certain, but Ye Xiu had made his decision.

Because he was certain that this wasn't an individual competition, but a group arena. Even if he couldn't win, he could pave the way for their next player. In the group arena, only one person could play at a time, but it was also a competition between two teams. Even if he couldn't win, he could still provide the win conditions for their next player. This was how the group arena should be played.

After using Falling Flower Palm, Ye Xiu had Lord Grim charge forward bravely. Right now, he had the initiative. If he had the opportunity to kill Sun Xiang, he obviously wasn't going to mind, but..... Sun Xiang clearly wasn't going to be so polite. One Autumn Leaf's high character stats made it so that Lord Grim's attack effects were reduced. The knockback from Falling Flower Palm wasn't as far as Ye Xiu had anticipated. From this point, it could be seen that the changes done to One Autumn Leaf by Excellent Era were successful. They disrupted what should have been a flow that Ye Xiu was familiar with.

Evil Annihilation and Myriad Manifestations Umbrella once again clashed. One Autumn Leaf's priority advantage was very obvious. Every time the two weapons collided, Ye Xiu had to do more to neutralize the attacks.

"The two sides are fighting again. Ye Xiu is trying to play more intelligently, but Sun Xiang is sticking close to him. It can be seen that Ye Xiu's stamina is going down already. In this exchange, he seems to have given more Chasers to Sun Xiang. In the beginning, he had been doing his utmost to limit the Chasers, but now..... It seems like he's not able to do it anymore....." Li Yibo observed the situation and felt like victory was already leaning towards one side.

"But Ye Xiu has maintained the possibility of counter attacking at any time." Pan Lin said.

"Yes. He's not panicking. He's still playing very calmly. However, what I'm worried about is that if this continues, will Ye Xiu still have the energy to play well in the team competition? In this match, because of the difference in characters, Ye Xiu is clearly spending more effort and energy to get this fight to be evenly matched!" Li Yibo remarked.

Chapter 1020: Not Like This

Li Yibo had been making mistakes throughout the match, but this time, he was on point. At Happy's bench, Wei Chen saw the way the round was going and started getting uneasy.

"What exactly is he planning?" Wei Chen called out.

"What's wrong?" Chen Guo hastily asked. She was also extremely nervous. She wanted to close her eyes and wait until this round was over before opening them again. Hearing Wei Chen suddenly speak out, Chen Guo immediately wanted to ask how he thought this round would go. All she saw was that the health on both sides were dropping. Neither side seemed to have the upper hand. However, Lord Grim had less health at the start, so if this continued on, Lord Grim would be the one to fall.

"He's already lost reason. If he lets his emotions affect him, how is he going to play in the team competition?" Wei Chen was somewhat mad. Chen Guo could see that Wei Chen was truly angry, but... she didn't understand what Wei Chen was talking about.

"Don't worry. He definitely has a reason for playing like this." Widely known as being wild, Sun Zheping was actually very calm at the moment. Even though he was talking to them, his eyes never left the stage.

"If he plays like this, even if he beats Sun Xiang, what's the point? To satisfy his vanity? To tell everyone that One Autumn Leaf's successor isn't as good as him?" Wei Chen's words were difficult for Chen Guo to accept. In her eyes, even though Ye Xiu had his problems, he wasn't that type of person. If he cared about that, how could he have let Excellent Era prance around him as they pleased?

"What are you talking about!" Chen Guo was also getting angry.

"If he keeps on playing like this, how is he going to play in the later team competition?" Wei Chen said.

"What's wrong with that? Which pro player doesn't play in the team competition after the individual competition?" Chen Guo said.

"You don't understand shit." Wei Chen was indeed feeling anxious. His speech became much more intense. He wasn't in the mood to explain it to Chen Guo. He had carried a lot of doubt and hesitation before reaching this point. He knew very well that the current Alliance no longer had a place for him. Any pro player nowadays needed him to rack his brains to beat. Even so, he had persisted until this day because his dream still burned brightly in his heart and because he trusted the person who had convinced him to return. Even though they had once been opponents in the past, it was for that reason that he understood Ye Xiu's thirst for victory.

When Wei Chen came out on stage, he lost to Xiao Shiqin. It took him, Tang Rou, and Mo Fan to take down Xiao Shiqin. 3v1. This type of performance wasn't worthy of any praise. Wei Chen also felt

disappointed and worried because of the outcome. However, he wasn't discouraged because he knew that this was only a small portion of the finals. The match hadn't ended yet.

However, when he saw Ye Xiu's performance, his concern turned into panic. Ye Xiu was the pillar of the team. If even Ye Xiu lost his reason and began to only care about himself, how could the far weaker Happy have any chances of winning?

Chen Guo looked at Wei Chen. She didn't bicker about his impoliteness because she knew that Wei Chen was too scared of losing. He would be thirty this year. After seven years of retirement, getting this one chance to return to the pro scene could already be considered a miracle. He hoped to return to the Alliance with Happy more than anyone else. This was his last chance. He was an outdated player with no future for growth. His only hope lay in Happy. The greater the hope, the greater the despair.

Chen Guo didn't argue with Wei Chen. She wasn't good enough. She really couldn't see anything strange about the situation, but she believed that Wei Chen wouldn't be worried over nothing. However, she was more willing to believe in Ye Xiu. Even if she couldn't understand it, she knew that Ye Xiu definitely wouldn't be like what Wei Chen worried for. Losing his reason and only caring about himself was only good for playing Super Mario.

"You must have made a mistake. I believe in him." Chen Guo said firmly. Wei Chen stared blankly for a bit and then sighed: "I hope so."

"Yes, so it's like that." Sun Zheping had been watching the match intensely the entire time. At this moment, he suddenly spoke out, "Old Wei, look carefully."

"Oh?" Wei Chen stared blankly again.

"This guy is looking to give me trouble!" Sun Zheping unexpectedly smiled.

"You guys..... What are you guys talking about? What did you see?" Chen Guo was puzzled.

"A chance." Sun Zheping said.

"What?"

"A chance to win." Sun Zheping said.

"He can win this round?" Chen Guo was wild with joy.

"It's hard to say if he can win this round, but Sun Xiang will definitely go down." Sun Zheping said.

"What do you mean?" Chen Guo didn't understand.

"You just wait for the show to start!" Sun Zheping said as he continued to stare at the match.

Chen Guo wanted to go crazy. She really hadn't noticed anything wrong. She looked to her left and right. Wei Chen and Sun Zheping were watching the match intently. On the other side, she saw Tang Rou's puzzled look. She also didn't understand what Sun Zheping was talking about.

The anxiety in Chen Guo's heart burned. Suddenly, she thought of a bright idea and took out her cellphone.

This match was being broadcasted. She didn't understand, but the broadcast had a commentator and expert discussing the match. She wanted to see what their thoughts were.

Chen Guo used her cellphone to listen to the broadcast, but it would have been better if she hadn't. As soon as she started to listen, her eyes were about to pop out. The commentators were saying that Ye Xiu was in an unfavorable position.

Correct!

Correct, unfavorable.

Chen Guo could also see it. Lord Grim was losing health faster than One Autumn Leaf. His health already wasn't as high to begin with. If he was bleeding faster than his opponent, the disparity between One Autumn Leaf and Lord Grim would only widen.

What's going on?

Chen Guo really didn't understand. Neither Li Yibo nor Pan Lin could give a good answer either. From Sun Zheping and Wei Chen, she could only see them focused on the match.

"What's going on, senior? It looks like you're looking weak!" Sun Xiang suddenly said in the chat.

"If this keeps up, how are you going to make me lose? I really don't understand." Sun Xiang continued.

"I'm afraid that if this continues, you won't understand how you died!"

"Could you be an NPC? When your health reaches 10%, you'll suddenly go berserk?" Sun Xiang chattered incessantly.

"Today's Sun Xiang is really... uh, talkative..." Pan Lin sighed. Ye Xiu didn't respond though. There wasn't any conversation.

Sun Xiang seized the opportunity to talk trash: "Why aren't you talking? Is the pace too fast? There's no time for you to type?" After Sun Xiang taunted, he typed a bunch of emojis, showing that he had energy to spare.

"It's about right." Ye Xiu suddenly replied and added a sunglasses emoji.

"What?" Sun Xiang was still asking!

"You said it! When my health reaches 10%, I'll go berserk. It's such a rare opportunity to meet. I can't leave you disappointed!" Ye Xiu said.

"Is that so? I'm looking forward to it! But it looks like... your health has already reached 10%? Where is it?" Sun Xiang said. He even had One Autumn Leaf look left and right as if he were looking for the berserk.

"I'm coming." Ye Xiu typed. Sun Xiang heard a sharp whistle from behind his character and hurriedly had his One Autumn Leaf dodge to the side. A shuriken flew past him.

Lord Grim was standing in front of him, but the shuriken had actually come from behind.

Boomerang Shuriken?

Boomerang Shuriken wasn't a skill name, but rather a technique. When using a Ninja's Shuriken, throw in a curve such that the shuriken would return like a boomerang.

Sun Xiang wasn't surprised that Ye Xiu could do it, but how come he hadn't noticed when he threw that shuriken?

Sun Xiang attached a lot of importance to this match. Even though he spoke a lot, he was very focused.

Yet even so, he hadn't noticed when that Shuriken had been thrown. His brain quickly went over the previous exchange. There had just been one tiny moment when he turned away and Lord Grim disappeared from his view, yet Ye Xiu had actually grasped that tiny opening?

Sun Xiang was surprised, but just that alone wasn't enough to beat him.

If that was what a berserk entailed, Sun Xiang was afraid that he would laugh so hard his teeth would fly out.

This obviously wasn't the berserk. After One Autumn Leaf dodged the shuriken, it started.

Lord Grim stepped forward. His Myriad Manifestations Umbrella changed into a spear and slashed up with a Sky Strike.

Sun Xiang didn't dodge it. One Autumn Leaf's Evil Annihilation faced it with an attack to block it.

But Lord Grim started to move the spear horizontally. The Sky Strike's trajectory was no longer a straight line, but a curve.

Sun Xiang didn't fear this type of change. He had One Autumn Leaf chase after the Sky Strike, as if he wouldn't rest if the two spears didn't clash.

Who would have thought that Lord Grim would have moved his spear back. Sky Strike once again went along its original trajectory as the Sky Strike continued.

It was too late for Sun Xiang to make any adjustments. He hastily jumped backward. Sky Strike suddenly swayed in front of his eyes.

Dragon Tooth!

The umbrella shot at him like a viper.

His spear's block was off and One Autumn Leaf was in midair. In that instant, Sun Xiang's mind went blank.

He actually wasn't able to respond to such a simple attack. His hands felt his keyboard and mouse, unable to do anything. What's going on? How did this happen?